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Federal aid now available for Mangkhut victims. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

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Suspicious activity warning

Telecommunications firm IT&E, which operates both in Guam and the CNMI, issued a notice yesterday on its social media account, warning customers of "suspicious activity."

"We've received reports that our subscribers are getting calls from +88182151200 and +88127175299. We recommend that you do not answer or call the number back, while Guam Homeland Security & Civil Defense along with the Marianas Regional Fusion Center, are monitoring the activity," the company said in its Facebook page.

The post issued the following

See WARNING on Page 4

CPA to make final decision on Tinian divert

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is looking at the end of this month to finally decide on the U.S. Department of Defense's proposal to put up on Tinian an alternative landing site—or divert airfield—for the U.S. Air Force.

CPA board airport operations committee chair Barrie C. Toves disclosed in an interview with the *Saipan Tribune* over the weekend that they are going to finalize their decision on Oct. 29 during a committee meeting.

The following day, Oct. 30, Toves said, they will hold a board meeting on Tinian where they are going to disclose to the public whether they approve or not the Air Force's divert airfield's plan.

A source said CPA's decision will be historic for Tinian and the CNMI.

See CPA on Page 4

NMTI GRADUATION
The Northern Marianas Trades Institute held a graduation ceremony at the Koblerville Open Air Gymnasium last Sept. 28. NMTI graduated a total of 147 students, issuing a total 195 trade certificates, with the addition of 21 adult vocational technical high school diplomas.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bank of Saipan: We only charge non-customers

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Bank of Saipan president and chief executive officer John Arroyo clarified yesterday that they only impose fees on non-customers who cash their checks with the bank—not their account holders.

In an email to the *Saipan Tribune*, Arroyo clarified the issue after several casino employees said that the bank was charging them a fee when they cash their paychecks that were issued by Bank of Saipan.

"Only non-bank customers are assessed the fee. Customers of the bank are not charged," said Arroyo, who added that one way to avoid being charged is to open an account at Bank of Saipan.

"This is a fairly easy process and opening new accounts is among our most favorite things we do. Another way to avoid paying the fee is to cash or deposit the check at their bank."

Arroyo said their non-bank customers told them that they could not easily use the money, that's why they cash their paychecks at Bank of Saipan. "We've heard from non-bank customers that the reason they cash

See BANK on Page 4

IPI: US employment a priority

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Casino investor Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC said they would continue to prioritize hiring U.S.-eligible workers, most especially in their ongoing multi-million Imperial Pacific Resort construction project.

IPI gave the assurance after terminating their contract with Pacific Rim Constructors Inc., the company that was building the casino in Garapan. The contract's termination was effective yesterday.

Last week, Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) posted a note that was reportedly signed by Pacific Rim senior project manager Richard Suryn, informing their workers that IPI has

See IPI on Page 4

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Canada has a revamped North American free trade deal with the United States and Mexico.

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OVERDRIVE
For years, General Motors has turned its back on Cadillac's heritage. It hasn't worked out.

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The Old Vic Theatre says it is trying to stamp out abuses of power in all workplaces.

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Local

Salary commission bill goes to Torres

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives passed a bill yesterday to set up an advisory commission that would review the salary of local officials and recommend, if any, an increase.

All 19 members present in yesterday's session voted to pass Senate Bill 20-111—introduced by Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan)—or an act that would establish the commission on the compensation of CNMI executive, legislative, and judicial officers. Rep. Joseph I. Itibus (R-Saipan) was excused.

House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) said the bill now heads to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for possible signing. "When the governor signs this [S.B. 20-11] I will immediately appoint two members from the House to the advisory commission."

The same process was followed in the controversial Public Law 19-83, where an advisory commission was created through Public Law 19-51. That commission had Sens. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) and Igisomar, Reps. Joseph Leepan Guerrero (R-Saipan) and Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan), former Senate president Pete P. Reyes, Office of the Governor's special assistant for management and budget Virginia C. Villagomez, and Saipan Chamber of Commerce secretary Alex A. Sablan as members.

The advisory commission is in accordance with Article II Section X of the CNMI Constitution where it states the salary of members of the Legislature "may be changed no more than once every four years and upon the recommendation of an advisory commission established by law to make recommendations concerning the compensation of Commonwealth executive, legislative, and judicial officers."

The advisory commission needs to review the compensation of the members of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government with the salary agreed on based on an existing consumer price index.

Public Law 19-83 could have increased the members of the Legislature's salaries from $39,300 to $70,000 while the governor and lieutenant governor will be receiving $120,000 and $100,000 each with municipal mayors—Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands—pegged at $75,000.

The Supreme Court, however, ruled that the salary increases—especially for the legislators—are unconstitutional, including the two previous wage hikes enacted under P.L. 4-32 and P.L. 7-31.

The previous salary advisory commission, through P.L. 19-51, compared the CNMI salary to the national and regional data they collected from all elected officials in other U.S. jurisdictions. The governor's salary in the territories and commonwealths range from a low of $70,000 (CNMI) to a high of $150,000 (U.S. Virgin Islands).

The commission also used smaller surveys that showed $62,000 is the average salary of a mayor and used that figure as a reference for the proposed $75,000 increase from $43,200. CNMI legislators also have the lowest salary at $39,300 compared to Guam at $85,000. The national average salary of lawmakers in the U.S. is $69,448.

However, Guam senators—after passing a bill that increased their salaries to $85,000 from $55,000 in 2014—voted 13-2 to roll back their pay raise to the original amount.

The advisory commission must first be established and they need to agree on a salary that's based on an existing consumer price index or else the salaries of the incoming members of the 21st Legislature would go back to $8,000 annually.

Suit vs owners, management of defunct Dynasty re-assigned back to Manglona

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood has reassigned to District Court Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona the lawsuit filed against the owners and management of the defunct Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino filed by their former foreign workers.

Manglona had disqualified herself from the case on Dec. 7, 2016, because of a conflict and assigned the case to her.

In an order Friday, Tydingco-Gatewood said that Manglona had informed her that the conflict no longer exists and that she is available to preside over the case.

"Efficient case management and expenditure of judicial resources favor assignment or reassignment of cases, when possible, to a judge appointed to sit in the district in which the case is being heard," the Guam judge said.

Last August, Tydingco-Gatewood made a default judgment against the owners and management of the defunct Tinian Dynasty.

At the recommendation Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy, Tydingco-Gatewood granted the workers' motion to strike the answers of Tinian Dynasty's owners and management: Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment Ltd. and Mega Stars Overseas Ltd.

Tydingco-Gatewood said no objections were filed by any party.

In her recommendation, Kennedy stated that it is well established that "a corporation may appear in the federal courts only through licensed counsel."

In this case, Kennedy said, the court informed defendants on several occasions after the withdrawal of their lawyers both in 2016 and 2018, that they may face sanctions, including stricken answers and a default judgment, if they fail to obtain counsel.

"Yet no counsel has appeared to represent defendants since Jan. 16, 2018, when defendants' second counsel was permitted to withdraw from the case," Kennedy said.

Samuel Mok is counsel for Eric F. Dona and six other co-plaintiffs. There are 15 named plaintiffs in this case.

In their lawsuit, Dona and co-plaintiffs alleged that the owners and management of Tinian Dynasty lied to them about their immigration status—that they were legally authorized to work despite the denial of their CW-1 petitions.

The total outstanding liabilities of the owner of Tinian Dynasty has now climbed to over $250 million—excluding the $75 million in civil penalty assessed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Crimes Enforcement Network—and is continuously increasing due to late payment penalties and interest.

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STK#U18-076R
NOW $28,699*

2017 Tacoma SR
DC, SB, Pre-Runner, 4-cyl, 2.7-liter, Auto, 2WD, Red, Mileage 11,369, STK#R18-033F
NOW $28,699*

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V6, 4-liter, Auto, 4WD, Red
STKU18-075R
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Federal aid now available for Mangkhut victims

Immediately following the approval of the CNMI's second request for a disaster declaration, federal assistance has been made available for eligible local residents and business owners who sustained property losses or damage as a result of Typhoon Mangkhut.

President Donald J. Trump granted the CNMI's second request for a disaster declaration approval this weekend. That triggered the availability of federal assistance for eligible local residents and business owners who sustained property loss or damage from Typhoon Mangkhut.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the CNMI would now see more accelerated assistance for families and affected infrastructure.

"Since the typhoon, our local teams have been working collaboratively with our federal partners on relief and recovery efforts on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian. With the disaster declaration that was recently approved by the President, we will see more accelerated assistance for families and affected infrastructure. I want to thank the White House, [the Federal Emergency management Agency], the [American] Red Cross, our federal partners, our Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, our local teams, and our volunteers for their continued work. Our people are resilient, and we will continue to work toward getting every person affected back to normalcy," he said.

According to a press release from the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office, teams consisting of representatives from the FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance program will be stationed throughout the CNMI so that assistance can be provided for the islands of Rota, Saipan and Tinian.

On Rota, FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance personnel will be at the Rota Mayor's Office starting on Tuesday through Friday from 9am to 5pm.

On Saipan, FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance personnel will be at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library starting on Tuesday through Saturday from 9am to 5pm.

On Tinian, FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance personnel will also be at the Department of Commerce building by the municipal baseball field in San Jose Village from Tuesday to Friday from 8am to 4pm and on Saturday from 8am to 12pm.

The declaration provides both individual and public assistance.

Individual assistance is provided directly to eligible individuals and families who have sustained losses due to disasters.

Individual disaster assistance may include grants to help pay for temporary housing to include rental and lodging expense, emergency home repairs, uninsured and underinsured personal property losses, and medical, dental and funeral expenses caused by the disaster, along with other serious disaster-related expenses. This type of assistance is for residents who incurred uninsured losses because of Typhoon Mangkhut

Public assistance provides reimbursement grants to state/territorial and local governments, as well as certain non-profit entities to assist them with the response to and recovery from disasters. Specifically, the program provides assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the permanent restoration of infrastructure

Through this type of assistance, FEMA will provide reimbursement of at least 75 percent of eligible costs, with the Commonwealth and local governments sharing the remaining 25 percent of costs. Eligible entities include Commonwealth governments, local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations such as schools and public utility districts.

In order to ensure that everyone is provided assistance during the outreach, individuals must come prepared to provide FEMA with Social Security Number (one per household), address of the damaged home or apartment, description of the damage, information about insurance coverage (ensure you obtain policy number information), telephone number, mailing address, and bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit of funds. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

Rota mayor pleads not guilty anew

Similar to his federal court case, Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig pleaded not guilty the charges filed against him by the Office of the Attorney General during his arraignment hearing last Friday in Superior Court.

Also pleading not guilty last Friday was Department Public Safety resident director Eusebio Manglona, 43, who, like Aalig, was also charged with theft and misconduct in public office.

Atalig and Manglona are now set for a status conference on Oct. 26.

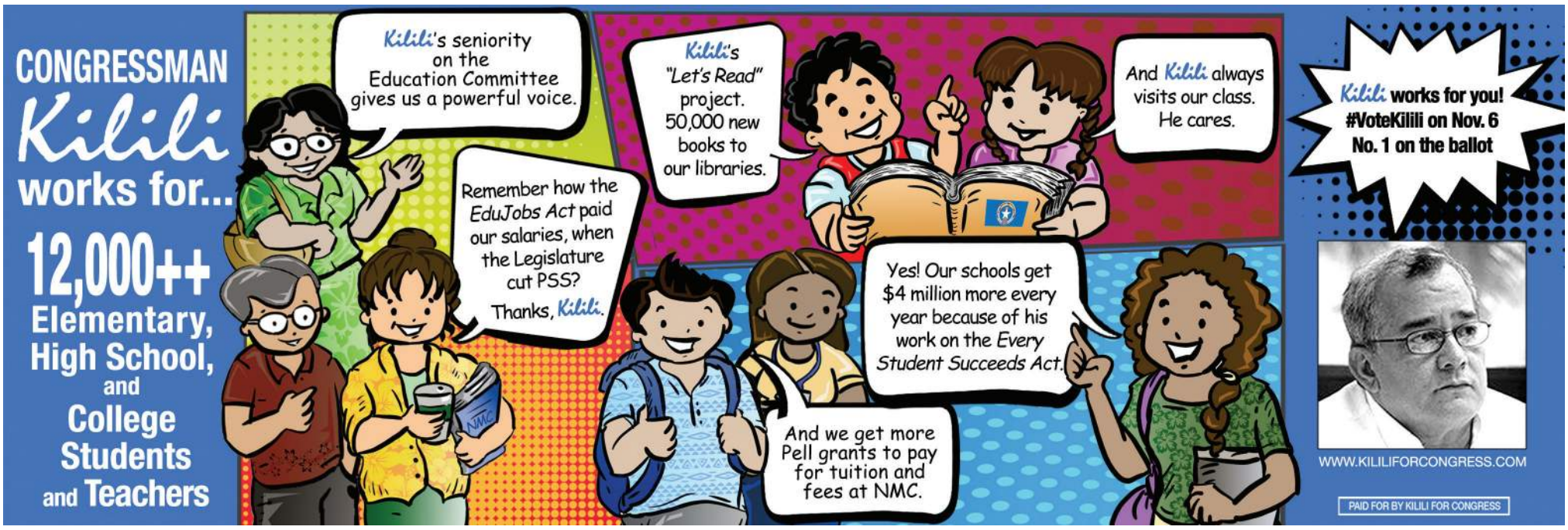
Dennis Nie represented Atalig, while Jack Torres represented Manglona.

Last September, the Office of the Attorney General filed criminal charges in Superior Court against 57-year-old Atalig and seven other Rota municipal officials in connection with a Guam political rally they allegedly attended.

The six other defendants are Labor Department resident director Dexter Apatang, 46; Public Works Department resident director Vanessa Charfauros, 42; Commerce Department resident director Dean Manglona, 35; resident director for the Department of Finance Josepha Manglona, 56; resident deputy commissioner for the Department of Fire and Emergency and Medical Services Dennis Mendiola, 38; and resident director for the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Magdalena Mesngon, 49.

In the local court case, the information charged Atalig and the seven other co-defendants each with theft and misconduct in public office.

According to a previous article on the *Saipan Tribune*, in June 2018, Atalig allegedly arranged a government-funded trip from Rota to Guam for himself and 12 other persons, including Rota municipal employees, by means of false claims and under fraudulent pretenses. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***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Torres, Remengesau meet in Palau

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres left for Palau last Sunday to attend the island nation's 24th Independence Day celebration and to meet with President Tommy Remengasau.

The Republic of Palau was established on Oct. 1, 1994, the same day when the Compact of Free Association with the United States took effect, making them an independent nation.

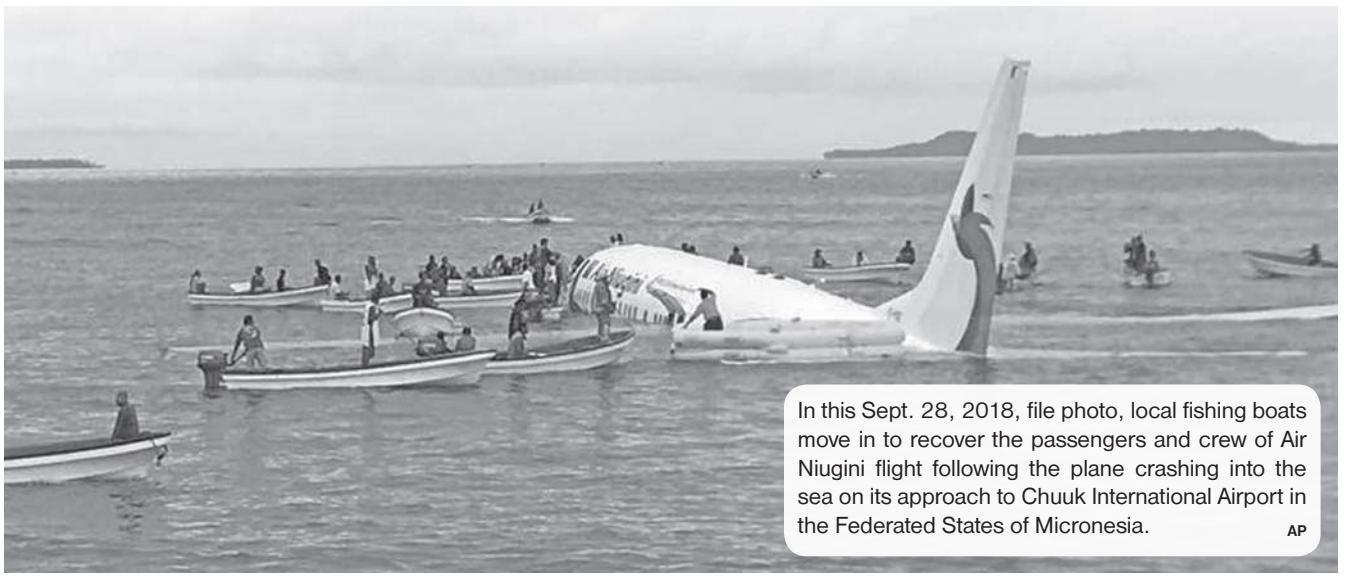
Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog is the acting governor until Thursday, when Torres is expected to return.

Torres, while in Palau, will also talk with Remengasau about environmentally sustainable development.

Last week, Palau Sens. Regis Akitaya and Elias Camsek Chin visited Saipan and met with Torres and other CNMI local officials like Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Robert Hunter.

Akitaya and Chin met with Torres to talk about regional issues and explore how to implement the Substance Abuse and Rehabilitation Program in Palau. Both are members of the current 10th *Olbiil era Kelialau* or the Palau National Congress. ***(Jon Perez)***

4 remain in hospital after Pacific lagoon plane crash



In this Sept. 28, 2018, file photo, local fishing boats move in to recover the passengers and crew of Air Niugini flight following the plane crashing into the sea on its approach to Chuuk International Airport in the Federated States of Micronesia. AP

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Four passengers remained hospitalized on Monday after an airliner crashed into a Pacific lagoon in Micronesia last week, the airline said.

The four were in stable conditions at a Chuuk island hospital and would soon be taken to Guam for further treatment, Air Niugini said in a statement.

A Chuuk State Hospital official did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Monday.

The four were among 47 passengers and crew who were evacuated from a sinking Boeing 737 on Friday after Flight PX73 from nearby Pohnpei island crashed into a lagoon about 145 meters (475 feet) from the Chuuk International Airport runway, the Papua New Guinea national carrier said.

The airline revealed on Saturday that one of the passengers hadn't been accounted for, although a search of the airliner's interior by U.S. Navy divers had confirmed he was not inside.

An Air Niugini spokeswoman did not immediately respond on Monday to a request for an update on the search for the passenger and for further details about him, including his nationality.

Air Niugini chairman Kosta Constaninou said witnesses reported seeing the passenger board a dinghy as U.S. divers and locals rescued the passengers and crew from the sinking plane.

What caused the crash and the exact sequence of events remains unclear. The airline and the U.S. Navy both said the plane landed in the lagoon short of the runway. Some witnesses thought the plane overshot the runway.

A Papua New Guinea accident investigation team flew to Micronesia on Friday, the Post Courier newspaper reported.

An official form Micronesia's Division of Civil Aviation did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Monday.

Flight PX73 flies from the Tokyo Narita Airport in Japan to the Papua New Guinea capital Port Moresby via Pohnpei and Chuuk.

Air Niugini has operated since 1973. Data from the Aviation Safety Network indicates 111 people have died in crashes of PNG-registered airlines in the past two decades but none involved Air Niugini.

WARNING

From Page 1

guidelines: For your security, we recommend that you:

■ Don't answer unexpected calls from unusual international numbers.

■ Don't answer calls from blocked or calls labeled as unknown.

■ Don't give out personal and/or financial information to unknown callers

"Keeping your account and your information safe is our priority, so we've blocked the number from reaching you and will continue to monitor activity from this number and any other suspicious numbers that are reported," the company added. "We'll keep you posted as the situation develops."

A separate statement from the Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense said that it is closely monitoring reports of local numbers receiving calls from international numbers beginning in +881.

In what is referred to as a "Wangiri" fraud, a Japanese word meaning "one ring and drop," the missed call from an international number prompts people to return the missed call. It is likely a "Wangiri" fraud, a scam that routes people to a premium rate service that can automatically charge the customer.

It was not immediately confirmed if this is in fact a Wangiri scam but are continuing to analyze. The following are important tips to keep in mind:

■ Do not answer any unexpected calls from international or unusual numbers.

■ If you have a missed call from an international or unusual number, do not be tempted to call back

Residents are advised to report any suspicious activity or social media posts relating to the fraudulent scam to the MRFC online at https://mlrin.org/ or email teammrfc@mlrin.org or call 475-0400, following the Department of Homeland Security's campaign, "If You See Something, Say Something."

It was not immediately learned if anyone in Guam or the CNMI has been victimized already. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

CPA

From Page 1

Toves said they assigned CPA board financial affairs committee chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds to lead and chair the negotiation with the Department of Defense as the matter is close to her heart as she is representing Tinian and that she is also a lawyer.

He said the pending issue that they have been looking at and continuing the talks is the mechanism of the lease.

He said the plan is that the northern part of the Tinian airport is going to be associated with the divert airfield.

"We have not made any decision yet," said Toves, adding that they have been going back and forth with DOD, talking in terms of what CPA and the Commonwealth require in order for them to agree to what terms.

Toves said there are some things that they asked to be precluded in the terms and conditions of any agreement that is going to come out.

"We did our in-house appraisal of the property as we requested to see what the market value is," he said.

Toves said they also looked at DOD's offer to them in terms of access to infrastructure like fuel tanks and the lines for the jet fuel that run between the harbor on Tinian up to the airport for the Air Force or military's use.

"Those are the things that we put on the table, that we would like to have access to those pipes and be able to provide jet fuel to commercial airlines," he said.

Toves said those are the things that kind of delayed their negotiations.

He said DOD later told them they could not do that because the military cannot compete with commercial operators such as Shell and Mobil.

Toves said that, according to DOD, they should not be engaged in commercial competition with the private sector.

In October 2017, the CPA board unanimously approved the Air Force's layout plan for the divert airfield on Tinian.

The U.S. Air Force prepared the Pacific Air Force Divert and Exercise airport layout plan and feasibility study for the CPA in December 2016.

The divert airfield is intended to become an alternative landing site for U.S. Air Force planes in case the airfield on Anderson Air Force Base in Guam is inaccessible for whatever reasons.

BANK

From Page 1

their checks at Bank of Saipan is because their bank refuses to cash their checks or will not give them immediate access to the funds if it is deposited."

"Instead, their bank recommends they cash the check at the Bank of Saipan and then bring the cash back to their bank if they wish it deposited."

He added that charging non-customers for cashing their checks is typical among other banks. "The non-customer check cashing fee is a typical fee most banks charge individuals who do not bank with them. It helps to offset the cost of doing business with someone who brings no other business to the bank."

Arroyo advised employees who are complaining to open an account with Bank of Saipan. "If anything is unfair, it is their bank's refusal to accept their deposits or cash their checks. Customers who have this kind of relationship with a bank should seriously rethink the value of that relationship. Seems pretty one-sided to me. Become a Bank of Saipan customer and avoid the fee."

He said that the fee for non-customers cashing their checks applies to all and not only for minimum wage earners like what the casino employees are saying. "All non-bank customers, regardless of their place of employment, have to pay the fee."

"All non-bank customers, regardless of economic status, will have to pay the fee. Become a Bank of Saipan customer to avoid the fee or deal with their bank's one-sided check cashing or funds availability policy."

Arroyo said the fee for non-customers cashing their checks is a policy by other banks. "While this is a new fee for the Bank of Saipan, it is a fee that has been charged by our competitors well before we even considered assessing the fee. In other words, we have held out charging the fee way longer than our competitors."

He also pointed out that all funds deposited in Bank of Saipan just circulate in the CNMI.

"We do business exclusively in the CNMI, which means the deposits collected in the CNMI remain in the CNMI for the economic benefit of just the CNMI. In other words, the funds deposited in our bank by the people of the CNMI are lent in the CNMI. They are not sent to Guam, Micronesia, or Hawaii to benefit the people and businesses that reside there," Arroyo said.

IPI

From Page 1

terminated their contract.

The note states that they will be out of work effective Oct. 25. "Accordingly, it is with regret that we must give you this notice of layoff. Your employment status will change to layoff effective Oct. 25 unless you are notified of another change of employment status before Oct. 25."

IPI, on the other hand, said that they are in negotiation with Pacific Rim to acquire all of their U.S. eligible workers in order to finish the Imperial Pacific Resort's construction, which was given an extension of completion on Feb. 28, 2021.

They said they are working with Pacific Rim to make sure that U.S. eligible workers will have continued employment under IPI once the work of the Guam-based contractor officially ends.

"IPI International (CNMI) LLC will continue to promote U.S. employment and is committed toward the completion of its construction project to boost [the] local economy. IPI is proactively working with Pacific Rim in offering continued employment under IPI's construction project," IPI said in the statement.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain further comments from Pacific Rim yesterday but they have yet to respond as of press time.

Local DOL to the rescue

The CNMI Department of Labor, meanwhile, will be providing a one-day job fair on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 9am to 3pm at the Kagman High School cafeteria, for U.S. eligible workers and other individuals that were affected by recent layoffs or business closures

The CNMI Department of Labor has teamed up with some local business establishments that will be present to recruit employees.

PSS eyes renovation of some condemned buildings

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System is looking to renovate several of its condemned buildings in several of its campuses all around the Commonwealth.

Interim Education commissioner Glenn Muña told *Saipan Tribune* that there are plans currently in discussion to renovate condemned buildings within the campuses of Marianas High School, Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, and others.

Saipan Tribune previously obtained documents pertaining to several PSS infrastructures to be demolished, including estimated costs for the service.

Specifically, the documents noted that Building C at FMS, which is "structurally unsound" and has already been condemned, would cost PSS about $30,000 to demolish.

Hopwood Middle School's LMA Building and Building V, both considered "unsafe for use in its current condition" and requires further structural assessment if both are to be salvaged, would set PSS back about $85,000 apiece to have it demolished.

WSR's maintenance building and old auditorium would cost $85,000 to demolish, while MHS' Building T South would cost the same for demolishing.

Rota's Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr./Sr. High School's old mechanic building, which is a property of PSS, is also recommended for demolishing and is estimated to cost $50,000.

In total, PSS is expected to cough up an estimated $420,000 to cover the demolition expenses.

Muña noted that once demolition takes place, PSS is looking to repurpose either the buildings or the space for something else.

WSR's auditorium, for example, could serve as additional parking space for the school after demolition, he said.

MHS' building has been condemned since 2015's Typhoon Soudelor. Muña told *Saipan Tribune* that his plans for that building tie in with the expansion of the "Career and Technical Education" program, or the CTE program. He further noted that the same goes for the Hopwood buildings.

"…We want to expand the CTE program, offering more courses there [at MHS]," he said. "For [FMS], we want to build more classrooms because they need more classrooms there. For Hopwood, [PSS] wants to demolish it and make it an auditorium or CTE class [expansion]," he added.

"We are also working with the Legislature," he said, adding that PSS is exerting efforts to secure funding from the Legislature by reporting on their plans for the buildings.

"There are a lot of competing priorities, and our priority right now is to put the resources at the schools, whether its instructional materials or personnel. Majority of our resources are at the schools. These buildings are one of them," said Muña.

CPA board approves $466K for Rota ARFF building renovation

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors has approved a request for supplemental funding in the amount of $466,611 to complete the renovation of the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting building at the Benjamin T. Manglona International Airport on Rota.

The CPA board adopted CPA executive assistant/project manager Wendi L. Prater's request during a meeting in the ARFF classroom at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport last Friday morning.

In his request, Prater said CPA anticipates reimbursement for 15 percent of the grant amount from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, which totals to $363,611.

Prater said the remaining $103,000 will come from CPA's recently approved passenger facility charges, where funding for this project has been included.

She said this funding was necessary due to change orders and two construction management amendments that were executed during the course of the project.

Prater said the substantial amount in change order No. 1 was due to the lack of aggregate and a federally-approved quarry on Rota, required under the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act for federally-funded projects.

The MSHA Act was not imposed until after bids were opened.

Prater said aggregate had to be imported from Saipan to meet the federal MSHA requirement.

CPA board financial affairs committee chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds said the supplemental funding was basically to cover the increase in the cost of the aggregate.

King-Hinds said because of the implementation of the Mining Act, they have to look at other places like Hawaii, Japan, or the Philippines to provide the aggregate.

Water outages in Fina Sisu, As Lito

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the public that there will be a scheduled water service interruption on Thursday, Oct. 4, from 7am to 4:30pm for the Fina Sisu and As Lito (west side of the Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road) areas. Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of water services soon thereafter.

The purpose of the water service interruption is to allow CUC's contractor Hawaiian Rock Products to install a new 6-inch waterline on Feddos Lane. As a result of the new installation, a more reliable water system will be provided to the community.

For the safety of CUC men and women working at the site, motorists are advised to proceed with caution when traveling through the area or to take alternative routes if necessary. ***(CUC)***

PH consular outreach provides 409 services

A total of 400 people availed of the services of the Philippine Consulate General in Guam during an outreach at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral Social Hall on Saipan last week.

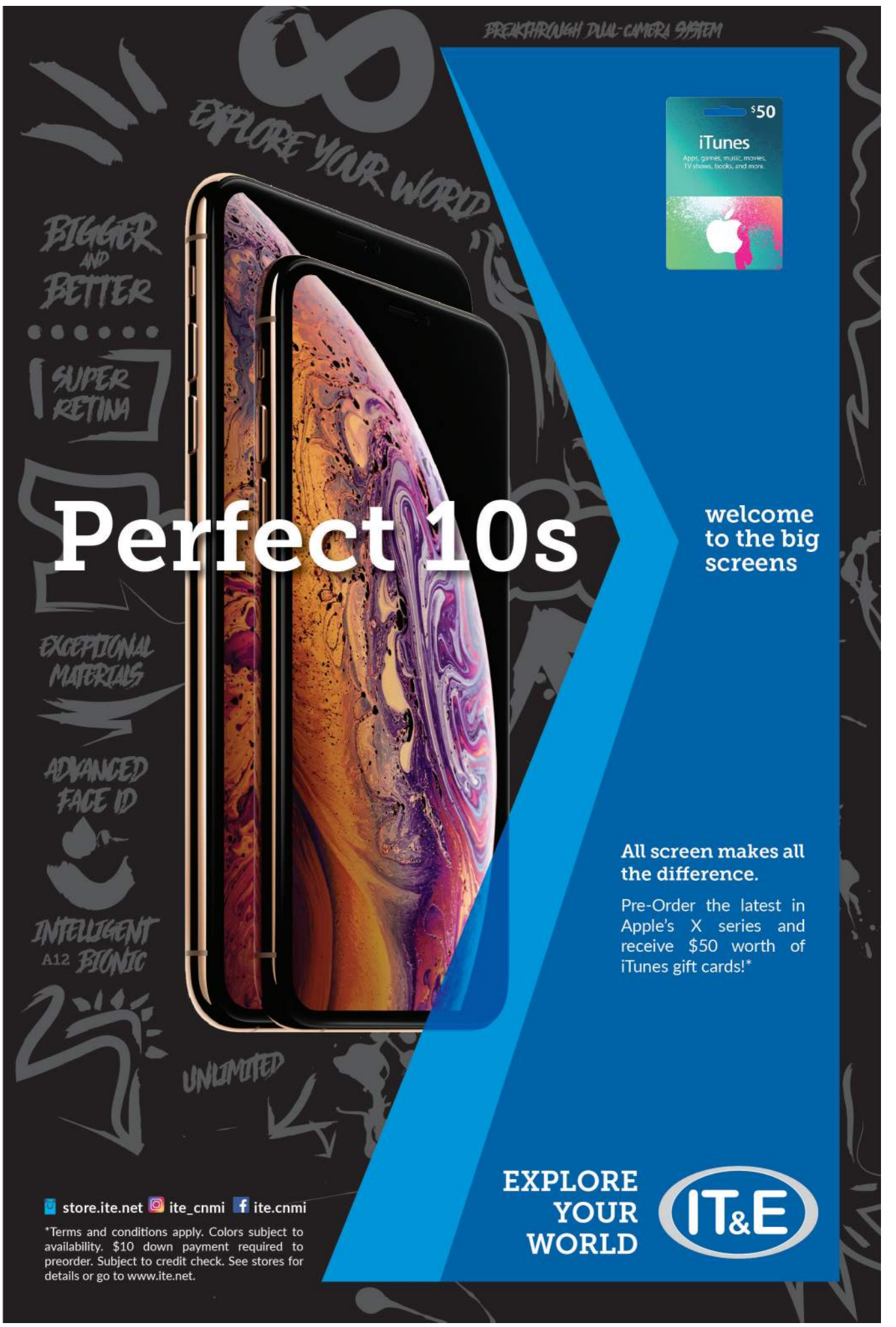
The consular outreach conducted last Tuesday through Thursday served a total of 409 Filipinos, including 394 passport renewals, two reports of lost ePassports, five passport extensions, one visa application, one jurat (affidavit), three reports of birth, one report of marriage, and two dual citizenship applications.

The previous consular outreach from Aug. 21, 2018 through Aug. 23, 2018 processed similar numbers—394 of the expected 420 passport renewal applications. All in all, 640 instances of services were provided during their previous outreach in August 2018, 220 of which were or overseas voting registrations.

Philippine Consul to Guam Mark Francis Hamoy earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that they were expecting to process 420 passport renewal applications.

He also previously noted that the outreach was the last chance for individuals who want to register as an absentee voter for the upcoming 2019 Philippine elections.

After Sept. 30, 2018, in order to register as an overseas voter, one must at least fly to Guam to visit the Philippine Consulate General. ***(Erwin Encinares)***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DOL to aid those affected by layoffs, business closures

The CNMI Department of Labor would like to invite interested individuals and U.S.-eligible workers affected by recent layoffs or business closures to attend the CNMI Department of Labor's Job Fair on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 9am to 3pm at the Kagman High School cafeteria.

Several businesses and entities will be on site to promote their organizations and recruit future employees. Interested participants and those affected by recent layoffs or business closures are urged to bring a copy of their résumé and be prepared to fill out job applications or applicable DOL forms. All Department of Labor units and representatives will be at the fair. The fair is open to the public, free to attend, and no advance registration is required.

For U.S. eligible workers who were affected by recent layoffs or business closures, the DOL Employment Services Unit and the Workforce Investment Agency Units and their representatives will be there to help you. Both units will help you prepare for the services you may need while transitioning through these challenging moments.

■ Services include job placement services registration; resume development; interview preparation.

■ Workforce Investment Agency job training services (for U.S. eligible workers).

■ Occupational skills: Workers willing to train for a new occupation may be able to receive assistance and/or supportive services for short-term skills training through one of our approved service providers.

■ Basic Education: Workers can improve their basic English and math skills or receive a high school equivalency diplomas through one of our core partners or approved service providers.

■ On-The-Job or Work Experience Training: Workers who want a career change can receive assistance and/or supportive services for on-the-job or work experience training with one of our business or community partners open to training new workers.

The Department of Labor will work with participants to quickly maximize public and private resources to minimize the disruption on affected workers, and communities associated with job loss. There is no cost to you or your community for these services.

For more information about the job fair or DOL Employment Services Unit, contact 664-3190 or 322-0996. For Workforce Investment Agency Unit, contact 670-664-1708. ***(PR)***

YOUTH TAKEOVER DAY ERWIN ENCINARES
Youth senators and youth leaders pose for a photo Thursday as elected senators step down for Youth Takeover Day.

DYS approved for technical assistance

The Division of Youth Services has been approved for another year of technical assistance from the Capacity Building Center for States/Children's Bureau under the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The additional year granted will be used to finalize the division's standard operating procedures, which will provide direction and clarity on all aspects of the agency's child welfare practice and operations. Furthermore, it will develop a needs assessment that will identify system training strengths, gaps in learning and opportunities for enhancing DYS staff training; and enhance their data system. Communication between the center and DYS has continued and official work is anticipated to begin in late October.

DYS is a division under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs led by administrator Vivian Sablan. Its overall mission is to help strengthen families and to promote good health and the wellbeing of children through the practice of positive parenting skills. For more information, contact DYS at (670) 237-1000. ***(PR)***

Zoning Board

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 Tel. 670-234-9661, FAX 234-9666
E-mail ZoningBoard@zoning.gov.mp

Diego C. Blanco, Chairman Mariano Taitano, Treasurer Joe E. Ayuyu, Jr., Secretary Patrick Reyes, Member

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Zoning announces its 8th annual Public Outreach Schedule

The Zoning Office has been conducting its 8th annual Public Outreach and Education Awareness meetings at specified locations around the island with community members, businesses, developers, property-owners, or any interested members of the general public the past several weeks. These meetings serve to disseminate information to the public about proposed amendments to the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013 and the Official Zoning maps, as well as to engage them in discussions to assist the Zoning Board's next update of the island's Zoning Law.

The following schedule includes the first 4 meetings in September, followed by additional dates and targeted villages.

DATE	PLACE	TIME
September 18, 2018	Multipurpose Center, Susupe	5:30pm
September 20, 2018	Dandan Middle School cafeteria, Dandan	5:30pm
September 25, 2018	GTC Elementary School cafeteria, San Roque	5:30pm
September 27, 2018	Kagman High School cafeteria, Kagman	5:30pm
ADDITIONAL DATES & VENUES		
October 02, 2018	GTC Elementary School cafeteria, San Roque	5:30pm
October 16, 2018	Saipan Southern High School cafeteria, Koblerville	5:30pm
October 18, 2018	Oleai Elementary School cafeteria, Oleai/San Jose	5:30pm
October 23, 2018	Tanapag Middle School cafeteria, Tanapag	5:30pm

The Zoning Board and Office encourages the public to join the meetings to learn more about the Law.

For more information, please call the Zoning Office at 234-9661 or visit the office located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building located in Dandan.

KHS principal, PSS chief mum on space brownie incident

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kagman High School principal Leila Staffler and interim Education commissioner Glenn Muña both chose to keep mum about an alleged cannabis incident at Kagman High School last week.

Staffler did confirm with *Saipan Tribune* rumors of a student lacing brownies with cannabis but declined to disclose additional information.

"…Yes, there is a confirmed incident at KHS, but the case is still an active case. If you have any questions please check with [the Department of Public Safety], as we do not want to jeopardize the ongoing investigation," she told *Saipan Tribune* in an email.

She also declined to provide additional information over the phone yesterday, citing the DPS investigation.

In an interview over the weekend, Muña reminded Public School System employees that cannabis use, although nearing complete legalization in the CNMI, remains prohibited under PSS rules.

Muña noted that PSS is taking a "proactive approach" to educate staff about the unique situation of cannabis in the CNMI.

"We are reaching out to our staff, educating that, although it may be legal to consume, the workplace prohibits that. Right now, the regulations have not changed and we can still uphold those regulations," he said, adding that it is the "same thing for students."

Muña noted that consequences for students are on a case-by-case basis. He specifically noted that it is dependent on how much pot is found with the student.

"First and foremost [PSS] would refer [the student] to law enforcement because it is against PSS regulations and it is a controlled substance that cannot be brought into schools," he said.

Although Gov. Ralph DLG Torres last Sept. 21, 2018 signed into law the Taulamwaar Sensible CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018, cannabis consumption is not instantaneously legal.

Torres, in a previous interview with *Saipan Tribune*, noted that it would take about seven months to set up the five-member Cannabis Commission members and the regulations on the oversight of the substance, which remains a Schedule I drug under the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency. Cannabis is still illegal in federal eyes.

Upon the creation and promulgation of the regulations on cannabis, it would take effect 10 days after its adoption and publication in the Commonwealth Register.

OPD moves dismissal of sex assault charge vs 1 of 2 men

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Public Defender has moved to dismiss one charge against one of two men accused of raping a 52-year-old woman.

Assistant public defender Heather M. Zona asked the Superior Court to dismiss with prejudice count 2 of the third amended information charging Jaime Always with sexual assault in the first degree.

Dismissal with prejudice means the prosecution can no longer re-file the charge.

Zona asserted that the government failed to set forth facts sufficient to place Always on notice as to what it is he is alleged to have done to violate the law.

"Indeed, there is no indication that whatever Mr. Always is alleged to have done constitutes a crime," the defense counsel said.

Zona said the purported basis for Always' liability is that he allegedly told the woman to "listen and obey" when someone else's supposed crime against her was already in progress.

Zona said there is no allegation Always was in a position of authority over the woman, and both were adults at the time of the alleged conduct.

Last March, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed without prejudice the charges against the 46-year-old Always after finding that no probable cause to believe that the crimes of sexual assault in the first degree and sexual assault in the first degree were committed.

The Office of the Attorney General then re-filed the charges against Always.

According to police, officers responded to a house last Feb. 4 to investigate a report of a sexual assault incident. The officers said a woman alleged that two men raped her.

The woman identified Always and Sony, who were found by the officers sleeping inside the house where the rape allegedly happened.

Igitol said Always and Sony were interviewed and admitted to have had sex with the woman, but that it was consensual.

The case against Sony is still pending in court.

Four graduate early from Drug Court program

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Superior Court hosted an early graduation ceremony for four graduates of its Drug Court program last Thursday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

The four persons individuals have met all the conditions without any violations since joining the CNMI Drug Court Program in 2017 and even completed the program earlier than expected (less than 18 months). This made them the third batch of graduates of the treatment program.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio, who has been presiding over Drug Court sessions, granted assistant attorney general Chester Hinds' motion to dismiss the charges against the four participants, three men and a woman.

As per standard practice, the identities of the graduates are kept confidential.

Michael Harris served as the keynote speaker during the graduation last Thursday.

"A graduation means a new beginning for some people… and I applaud our drug court participants for graduating from this program but the real work has just begun," he said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Kim-Tenorio, and lawmakers in attendance presented the certificates of completion to the four.

Department of Public Safety officer Frederick Sato gave the case summary for each graduate such as how the graduates were arrested, how they started the program, and how they're determined to complete the program, among other things.

Drug Court caseworkers Jaclyn T. Mendiola, Dolores I. Benavente, along with Marianas Behavioral Health International Inc. counselor Elaine Dela Cruz spoke about the accomplishments of the four graduates and how they were able to complete the phases of the treatment program earlier than expected.

Kim-Tenorio delivered the closing remarks.

During the graduation ceremony, two new participants were sworn into the program.

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has a separate drug court program called the Drug Offender Re-entry Program.

The Drug Court had its first session on Dec. 22, 2016.

CPA board adopts $25.1M FY 2019 budget

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors holds a meeting at the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting classroom of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. During the meeting, board members approved CPA's fiscal year 2019 budget.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors adopted a fiscal year 2019 budget of $25,084,922 for airports and seaports during its board meeting last Friday.

The board approved the budget at a meeting at the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting classroom of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. CPA acting chair Thomas P. Villagomez presided over the meeting.

CPA board airport operations committee chair Barry C. Toves said the airport division has a budget of $15,357,728 for fiscal year 2019, while the seaport division has $7,727,194.

Toves said the fiscal year 2019 budget is a slight dip compared to last fiscal year's budget of $16,809,500 for the airport division and 8,528,947 for the seaport division, for a total of $25,338,447.

CPA board financial affairs committee chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds told *Saipan Tribune* that it is a very conservative budget, but it ensures that eligible employees are given within-grade increases next fiscal year.

King-Hinds said the pull-out of both Delta Air Lines and Cape Air resulted in a reduction in revenue. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

SBA ready to assist NMI businesses and residents affected by Mangkhut

SACRAMENTO, Calif.— Low-interest federal disaster loans are now available to businesses and residents as a result of President Trump's major disaster declaration, U.S. Small Business Administration's administrator Linda McMahon announced.

The declaration covers Rota, Saipan, and Tinian as a result of Typhoon Mangkhut that occurred on Sept. 10-11, 2018.

"SBA is strongly committed to providing Rota, Saipan, and Tinian with the most effective and customer-focused response possible and with access to federal disaster loans to help businesses and residents affected by this disaster," said McMahon. "Getting our businesses and communities up and running after a disaster is our highest priority at SBA."

Businesses of all sizes and private nonprofit organizations may borrow up to $2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to businesses and homeowners to help with the cost of improvements to protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Economic injury assistance is available to businesses regardless of any property damage.

Disaster loans up to $200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to $40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Interest rates can be as low as 3.675 percent for businesses, 2.5 percent for private nonprofit organizations and 2 percent for homeowners and renters with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, survivors must first contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency at www.disasterassistance.gov. As soon as Federal-State Disaster Recovery Centers open throughout the affected area, SBA will provide one-on-one assistance to disaster loan applicants. Additional information and details on the location of disaster recovery centers is available by calling the SBA Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955. ***(PR)***

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Senate OKs CUC board appointment for Tinian

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate unanimously confirmed a Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board appointee representing Tinian during their Thursday afternoon session.

The Senate voted last week to support the re-appointment of Jovita San Nicolas Paulino representing Tinian on the CUC board. Sens. Paul Manglona (R-Rota) and Steve Mesngon (R-Rota) were absent from the session.

Paulino said she would do her "very best to uphold transparency and to work closely with the other board members. I would make sure to empower CUC executive director Gary Camacho so that we can have CUC moving forward."

Paulino was filling in for former CUC board member Eric San Nicolas, who resigned last year without completing his term. She was with the board for the remainder of his term, which was about eight months. Thursday's confirmation was her first appointment to the CUC board on a full term.

"We have so many projects in line for Tinian, Saipan, and Rota. I don't just focus on Tinian but I focus on the CNMI as a whole," she said.

Prior to voting, Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) expressed his support for Paulino. "She had overwhelming support from the community as well as the agency," Hofschneider told the Senate. "I thank her for her patience to continue on serving."

Hofscheneider described Paulino as "transparent, informative, and very communicative" when it came to the CUC board's relationship with the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation, which he chairs.

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan), who chairs the Senate Public Utilities and Transportation Committee, noted that he s "very impressed" with her performance on the CUC board.

"…I really like what she is doing—how she is collaborating with the community of Tinian, what every need of Tinian [is], and communicating with the executive director of CUC and the CUC board making sure that everything is taken care of," he said.

The Senate confirmed Paulino's appointment, 7-0.

Festival of Cultures pushes through

Despite the cancellation of the first day of festivities due to inclement weather, the 4th Annual International Festival of Cultures pushed through on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 22 and 23.

A small but colorfully-clad group of cultures kicked off the festivities with the Parade of Cultures on Saturday at 5pm from the Carolinian Affairs Office to the festival venue at Paseo de Marianas.

Walking delegations were the representative groups of the Marianas, Japan, Korea, Federated States of Micronesia, the Philippines, Africa, Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, Palau, and the Bangladesh community. The parade was followed by a fashion show onstage and a full night of entertainment.

"Despite the rain, it was a successful International Festival of Cultures," said MVA Community Projects coordinator Demalynn Pagarao, lead organizer for the event. "It takes a lot of time, resources, and people for each of the groups to share their culture, and we extend a big *si yu'use ma'ase, ghilisou*, and thank you to all of them. The costumes, the food, the dances, the games, and many other aspects shared was a great opportunity for the community to enjoy and appreciate the cultural diversity of the Marianas. We look forward to next year's celebration."

The festival featured ethnic food, hands-on cultural demonstrations, games, ethnic attire, arts and crafts, and more. Participating communities were the Marianas, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Marshall Islands, Hawaii, Tonga/Fiji/Samoa, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Korea, Japan, and Africa.

Additional supporters were from the Indigenous Affairs Office, 500 Sails, Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Works, Carolinian Affairs Office, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and Bureau of Environmental Health. ***(MVA)***

The community of Samoa, Fiji, and Cook Islands prepares to perform at the 4th Annual International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 22, 2018. The annual event celebrates the cultural diversity of the Marianas and is organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority. MVA

The Japanese community models traditional kimono at the 4th Annual International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 22, 2018. The annual event is organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority. MVA

Frances Sablan of the Chamorro community weaves coconut fronds at the 4th Annual International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 22, 2018. The annual event celebrates the cultural diversity of the Marianas and is organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority. MVA

MVA
Tokie Mojica of the Marshallese community sells handicrafts and jewelry at the 4th Annual International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 22, 2018.

FOA's Night at the Movies returns with *Jumanji*

The Friends of the Arts is bringing back its outdoor movie night at the Navy Hill baseball field, starting with the family movie, *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle*.

The Friends of the Arts, which has been hosting an outdoor movie special for the past three years, returns this Friday, Oct. 5.

Jumanji is a 2017 American fantasy adventure film starring Dwayne Johnson. In the film, four teenagers are sucked into a magical video game, and the only way they can escape is to work together to finish the game.

The Friends of the Arts invite the public to come to the Navy Hill baseball field, bring chairs or blankets, relax and enjoy a night at the movies. Viewers can bring their own food or purchase drinks and snacks from the Marianas High School Theater Club. The movie lasts two hours and is rated PG-13 for its action content.

This production will be held on just one night, Oct. 5 at 7:30pm. If it rains on Oct. 5, the movie will be shown on the next night, Oct. 6. Tickets can be purchased at the show at $3 for children and students 4-11 years in age and $5 for adults and students over 11. ***(PR)***

Anti-domestic violence proclamation signing on Oct. 3

The public is invited to attend the 2018 Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation signing ceremony that will be held at 10am on Oct. 3 at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

The ceremony, which is hosted by the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence and the Family Violence Task Force, will mark nearly 25 years of October being recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the CNMI.

The proclamation signing ceremony will also feature speakers and the presentation of the Bridge of Light Award, as well as exhibits from different community programs.

Community members are also invited to the Walk & Roll Against Sexual Violence that will be held later at the Koblerville Youth Center. The public can register starting at 5pm with the walk starting at 5:30pm. Walk & Roll event participants also are encouraged to bring signs or banners to help spread awareness on domestic violence.

There are a variety of events happening in Saipan, Rota, and Tinian throughout the month, including Walk & Rolls, candlelight vigils in memory of victims of domestic violence, family fun events, and even a softball tournament. To download the DVAM 2018 Calendar of events, visit www.facebook.com/endviolencenmi or request a copy through info@endviolencenmi.org.

Also, there will be public discussions with a variety of guest speakers on topics related to domestic violence on KKMP 92.1 FM every on Tuesday morning in October. There will also be a guest appearance on the Marianas Agupa' radio show (100.3 FM) on Saturday, Oct. 6, 2018.

A theme is chosen each year by the DVAM Committee, which is composed of NMCADSV, FVTF, partner programs and agencies, and community volunteers. The DVAM theme for this year is "Support. Encourage. Empower."

For more information, contact NMCADSV at (670) 234-3878 or email info@endviolencenmi.org or contact FVTF at 664-4583/4584. ***(PR)***

Major donors step up for Club 200

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter's Club 200 fundraiser has receives major support from CNMI businesses. This year's Club 200 will take place on Oct. 13.

Bridge Capital, Bank of Saipan, DFS, *Marianas Variety*, the Joeten-Dai Dai Foundation, McDonald's and Mobil Oil Marianas have all provided gifts to support the work of the Red Cross here in the Marianas.

"Our annual Club 200 is an important event to support the ongoing work of the Red Cross, said Red Cross board chair Tayna Belyeu-Camacho.

"We are nothing without the generous financial contributions of businesses, individual donors and volunteers" said Camacho. "We rely on the generosity of our people to respond to major events like Ttyphoon Mangkhut as well as assisting during home fires or helping school children learn about being "Disaster Ready."

Support the Red Cross by being a Club 200 corporate donor or purchasing an event ticket. For more information about purchasing tickets for the dinner and raffle on Oct. 13, call 234-3459. ***(PR)***

Bridge Capital donates $5,000 to the American red Cross-NMI Chapter.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Triple J Enterprises presents a $2,500 check to the American red Cross-NMI Chapter.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Major Mangkhut relief donors

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter has mobilized its volunteers and provided thousands of relief items to those in need on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian in the wake of Typhoon Mangkhut.

Relieving suffering after a major storm is only made possible through the extraordinary gifts of time, money, and resources.

The Joeten Daidai Foundation has given a gift of $20,000 and DFS has donated $10,000 to help those most vulnerable and in need of assistance following the storm.

"These funds make it possible for us to provide aid to those most impacted," said J.D. Tenorio, Red Cross district manager for Typhoon Mangkhut. "Without financial contributions, we can't provide blankets, flashlights, tarps, water and other critically needed relief supplies."

In addition, Mobil Oil Marianas donated $10,000 worth of fuel vouchers as well as drinking water and rice that will be distributed on Rota over the next few weeks. The fuel vouchers, water and rice will help cover expenses that will allow families to use their savings to buy other essential items for their families.

For more information about the Red Cross or making a donation, call 234-3459. ***(PR)***

Bank of Saipan presents a $2,500 donation to the American red Cross-NMI Chapter.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Duty Free Shoppers Saipan makes a donation to the American red Cross-NMI Chapter.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mobil Oil Micronesia donates $2,000 to the American red Cross-NMI Chapter.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Joeten Dai Dai Foundation along with their affiliate companies—Joeten Enterprises, Saipan Stevedore, Saipan Shipping, Pacifica Insurance, Joeten Motors, and Ace Hardware—are a top donor for the American Red Cross' Club 200.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

The millennial wedding vow: I don't—yet

For years, people who married faced a grim statistic: Half of those giddy couples would divorce eventually. Maybe more than once.

But—happily—that is changing.

The U.S. divorce rate plunged 18 percent from 2008 to 2016, according to an analysis by University of Maryland sociology professor Philip Cohen. "All signs now point toward decreasing divorce rates ... in the coming years," he writes. "This is remarkable" because it is happening even while divorce is more culturally acceptable. (Exhibit A: Who'd have believed decades ago that we'd have a president who's been divorced twice?)

Guess who's driving this decline? Not the aging baby boomers. They're still divorcing at relatively high rates even into their 70s. That trend has been dubbed—insert cringe here—"gray divorce."

No, the heroes of the divorce reverse are people under 45. Specifically, millennials and their Gen X elders.

Unlike boomers, these young people tend to be pickier about whom they marry and at what age. They generally don't rush into marriage just out of high school or even out of college, but instead wait until they're established in careers and have money in the bank. They may live together as a couple, but they don't feel the same pressure to tie the knot, possibly because they've seen the ruin of divorce in the lives of their parents and grandparents.

These younger people are "putting marriage on a pedestal," Cohen tells us. "They don't want to enter into it until they're really sure." For them, he says, marriage is "a signal that says you have arrived."

This trend is, to borrow a word we learned from a millennial, clutch.

Don't get us wrong. We're not dissing marriage. A stable, loving marriage is good for your health, your bank account—and for raising children.

But science tells us that the human brain doesn't fully mature until about age 25. Immature brains can make impulsive choices that they later regret.

This waiting trend may disturb older folks who followed a more traditional (rockier?) path and may be secretly, or not so secretly, wondering if there's something wrong with their progeny. There isn't. Remember: Unlike previous generations, many younger people have a ready supply of candidates at their fingertips in the era of Tinder and other dating apps. They can just keep swiping right.

Our advice for parents impatient to marry off a son or daughter? Relax. The older they get, the less likely you'll be stuck paying for the wedding.

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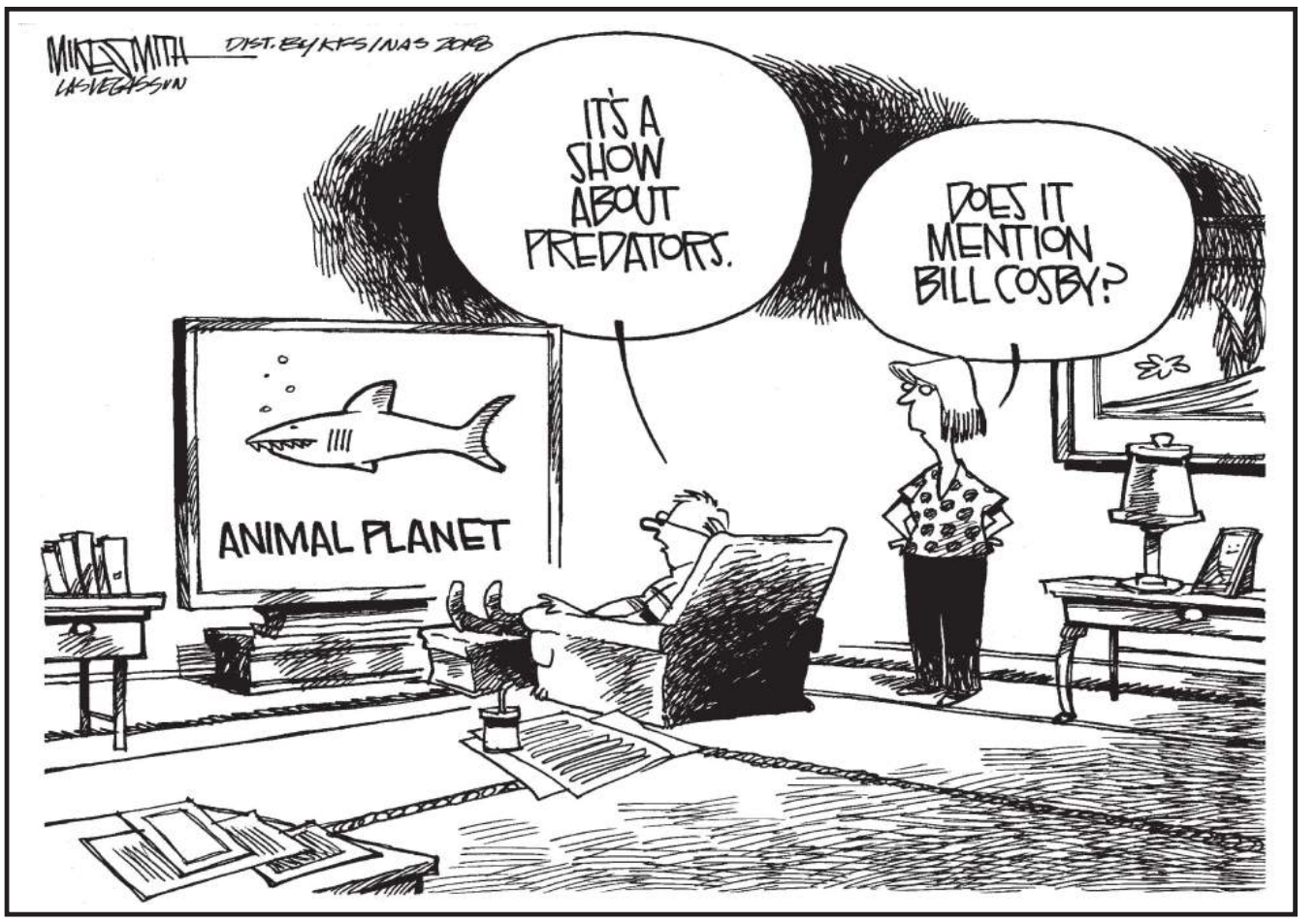

I'm just tired of all of it

By STUART ROTHENBERG
CQ-Roll Call

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. *Readers may send her email at cflowers1961@gmail.com.*

WASHINGTON—I'm tired of all the noise and hype. I'm tired of the daily crises. I'm tired of the drama that is produced by President Donald Trump. I'm tired of the suffocating coverage by the national media of the chaos that swirls around the administration. I'm tired of the obvious partisanship on Capitol Hill. I wish it would all stop, but I know it won't.

I'm tired of the stupid tweets from the president of the United States that wouldn't be appropriate for a 12-year-old school yard bully, let alone someone who is supposed to be a world leader.

I'm tired of the lies and efforts to misdirect that come from Sarah Huckabee Sanders and other members of the White House and friends of the president.

I'm tired of Trump's ridiculous rallies—his attacks on the media and the "deep state," his misstatements about the economy, and his efforts to undermine important institutions such as the Department of Justice and the FBI.

I'm tired of all of those people standing behind him, wearing their MAGA hats and waving signs, and cheering mindlessly when he mocks his adversaries, attacks America's allies and brags about his alleged accomplishments.

I'm tired of much of the media coverage. While I agree with most critics of the president and Republicans on Capitol Hill, I wonder why the major cable networks can't take a break once in a while from talking Trump (or more recently, Judge Brett Kavanaugh) and instead give me some other news.

Something else MUST be going on around the world.

Could we get some more coverage of Venezuela? The nationalist regimes in Poland and Hungary? The change in leadership in Australia? China's economy and foreign policy efforts? Africa? Something must be happening there.

I'd even like to see or read pieces on how the states are dealing with health care or economic issues.

I'm unbearably tired of the endless panels on CNN and MSNBC going over the same topics all day. And I'm tired of cable television guests who talk about the midterms but know as much about elections as I do about nuclear physics.

I'm tired of the cable shows that feature panels/guests who are only on one side of the argument, and I'm tired of cable shows that have two guests from different parties yelling at each other rather than trying to be analytical.

I'm tired of Capitol Hill Republicans who refuse to comment on and criticize stupid things the president says or does.

Nobody can ever answer a question with "yes" or "no." I'm tired of that, too.

I'm tired—really, really tired—of the hypocrisy. I'm tired of Republicans expressing shock that Democrats are trying to delay the confirmation of Kavanaugh and apparently forgetting that they wouldn't take up the nomination of Merrick Garland, for no other reason than Barack Obama nominated him.

I'm tired of Democrats acting as if they wouldn't do the same thing that Republicans are now doing if they were in the majority.

You see, I watched Democrats avoid criticizing Bill Clinton when he had his scandal, and I saw former Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid begin the slippery slope of undermining the filibuster.

Oh, and I'm seriously tired of people complaining about "false equivalence."

Sure, I'll admit that I'm not equally tired of everything.

I'm most tired about Trump's misstatements about the 2016 campaign, his complete lack of understanding about trade and deficits, his ignorance of American history, and his bragging and narcissism.

And, of course, I'm really tired of his lies and misstatements—and his constant efforts to accuse people of doing things of which he is guilty.

By now, you certainly want to know why I'm still writing about politics if I'm so tired of it all.

That's a fair question.

Part of the answer is that I'm not certain what else I would do.

Part of it, I'm sure, is force of habit.

I have been watching the evening news since I was a child.

We were a Huntley-Brinkley family. And my family got two newspapers delivered each day—The New York Times in the morning and the Journal-American in the afternoon.

I've been watching and reading about politics for at least 60 years. I still remember how excited I was right before the 1960 election and how I enjoyed watching the national convention coverage when it was on broadcast TV.

I loved watching Frank McGee and John Chancellor and Bruce Morton.

So you can say that, in part, I'm addicted.

But I also remain fascinated and entertained by the game of politics.

Maybe I will get so tired of all the tumult associated with Trump that I'll simply walk away.

But not today.

Not at least until after the midterms, when we see more winners and losers, and when the truly bizarre story we are all now following may show signs of coming to an end.

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Fellas, here's a word for you: misogyny

"C'mon, sweetie, can't you take a joke?"

"Lady, if you'd just shut up for a minute then I can explain why you're wrong."

"Miss, bring me some more coffee and this time give us a smile!"

"What do you mean, you don't want children? That's unnatural."

"Do you know how pretty you'd be if you just used some makeup? If you lost 15 pounds? If you let your hair grow? If you wore dresses?"

"We need to hire a guy this time. The last two hires were both females."

Most of us didn't know there was a word for it and once we did, we learned not to say it out loud. The very silence surrounding it is evidence of it. Yet misogyny is like the air around us: unseen, full of pressures, exerting influences we have trouble charting and therefore don't question.

How can we escape the influence of the culture's insistence on subordination for every woman, which is the equivalent of a chicken in every man's pot? There's almost no way to evade these images; even if we decide to reject and dismantle them, we have to face them and define them first.

Derived from the Greek, misogyny means "woman-hater." It's not a tough term to explain, but, like racism and homophobia, a lot of people argue that it doesn't exist even when the lives of millions are shaped by it daily. "We had that black president _ what else do you want?" and "Anderson Cooper and RuPaul both have their own shows" are phrases which might clue you into the fact that you're talking to folks who are racists and homophobes.

These phrases could cozy right up to their misogynist brethren, which include but are not limited to, "It's scientifically proven that women lose their minds once a month," "If they're really smart, girls will keep their intelligence to themselves," and "A man has to be older, taller and earn more money than his wife or else the marriage will never work."

Ironically, misogyny is an equal-opportunity affliction: women can express loathing and contempt for other women at least as effectively as men. In this arena as well, I would argue, women can surpass their male colleagues.

So, how can you tell if you're dealing with a misogynist?

If he or she refers to adult women who work in a professional setting as "the girls," says my Facebook friend Nancy P. Thompson, then you're dealing with somebody who has a problem with women.

My former student Burton Phillips writes, "In my experience, use of the word 'female' as a noun rather than an adjective is a pretty reliable red flag." Now an attorney working for New York's first female (note the adjectival use) attorney general, Barbara Underwood, Burt makes an excellent point.

Three other former students, now all successful professionals, make similarly poignant observations: Ebony Murphy-Root, a teacher in California, suggests that you can discover a person's philosophical underpinnings by asking their opinions about "women who don't change their surnames at marriage. Misogyny will out."

Argues Melissa Batista, who works in Manhattan, "When they puff out their chest and pat you on the back" but "stop you before you're finished going over a report because they've 'heard enough'" you're dealing with men who don't give women the respect they automatically award men.

Caitlin O'Donnell, in Boston and working in academia, says, "If he rolls his eyes, laughs or raises his eyebrows when I express important opinions, ideas or feelings," then he's a misogynist. He might just think he's a witty, natural, heart-on-his sleeve kind of guy who just wants gals to lighten up, but he'd be wrong about that.

It's not that women can't take a joke. It's that misogyny isn't funny. No kidding: it really isn't.

Finally, when hearing that a woman or girl has been sexually harassed or assaulted, if the first three questions are "What was she wearing?" "What was she doing there?" and "Well, what did she think would happen?" that person is a misogynist. That person believes that Adam would've been better off keeping all his ribs.

Don't ignore misogynists. Don't let them off the hook. Don't appoint them, don't support then and don't elect them.

By GINA BARRECA
The Hartford Courant

Gina Barreca is an English professor at the University of Connecticut and the author of If You Lean In, Will Men Just Look Down Your Blouse? *and eight other books. She can be reached at www.ginabarreca.com.*

The Kavanaughs speak

At times Brett and Ashley Kavanaugh sounded rehearsed and overly cautious in their "exclusive" interview with Fox News host Martha McCallum Monday night. Brett Kavanaugh repeated verbatim lines about defending his character and allowing the "process" to play out. He said he would not withdraw in the face of unsubstantiated charges against him.

Some people will find it difficult to believe Kavanaugh's statement that he was a virgin through high school and "long after" college. In our age when feelings often matter more than facts, it might have helped the Kavanaughs gain more support had Ashley Kavanaugh read from the hate mail she has received. The Wall Street Journal obtained some of the messages and published only those that could be quoted in a family newspaper. They were horrible and hateful enough.

Will this horror show never end? People who lament the loss of civility in Washington and in general political conversation need to denounce this process. It has become like a slaughterhouse of candidates for high positions whose worldview might differ from those of the opposition party or persuasion but who, after all, are fellow citizens and deserving of at least a modicum of respect, as well as a polite debate on issues.

Politicians are usually a weak bunch. They tend to cower when challenged. Think of Clarence Thomas' accusation that opponents to his confirmation were engaged in what he called a "high-tech lynching for uppity blacks." His passionate rebuke of the process and his stark calling-out of this country's dark history of systemic racism ultimately saved his nomination.

What will help Kavanaugh's cause in Thursday's hearing is to reach down and find some passion deep in his soul. In the Fox interview, he said he is relying on the public's sense of "fairness" to help him get confirmed. What is happening to him is anything but fair.

Critics of this nomination process have suggested that it will deter good people from seeking office. Suppose that is precisely the hope of the left. Their idea of an ideal judge is one who is ruled by the spirit of the age, opinion polls and feelings, not the Constitution, a document that is the nation's legal and governmental foundation and has served us well in good and bad times. Too many politicians and judges today regard the Constitution as an inconvenience in the pursuit of their goal of social and political transformation.

The latest Fox News Poll shows support for Kavanaugh's confirmation slipping from 45 percent approval in August to just 40 percent now and his disapproval rising from 46 percent last month to 50 percent currently.

By CAL THOMAS
Tribune Content Agency

Readers may email Cal Thomas at tcaeditors@tribpub.com.

The logical contradiction of Trump's enemies

Concerning the accusation of attempted rape made by Christine Blasey Ford against Brett Kavanaugh, he has cleared his name. She points to witnesses in the room at the time, all of them have said nothing remotely like that ever took place, and yet we still hear Democratic calls for an FBI investigation. The wish apparently is that non-witnesses can convince everyone otherwise.

There's something almost insane about all of this, including the bizarre tales that have followed the first one, but our national confusion hardly ends with the struggle to whomp President Donald Trump's nominee for justice of the Supreme Court. For another matter of consequence and similar illogic, the progressive hope is that Democrats will win the House and Senate in the midterm elections and thwart the worst of Trump; that would more likely mean thwarting the best of him and aiding the worst.

Consider that a truly shiny moment for Trump and his Republican cohorts was passage of tax reform legislation taking a sluggish economy and inspiriting it with life, liberty and a better chance for millions to pursue happiness.

We've had some of the lowest unemployment rates ever, a situation in which a stroll down Main Street shows as many "We're hiring" signs as invitations to come in and buy. Stagnant wages? Up-and-at-'em. Manufacturing, said by the Obama administration to have run out of human needs, is looking hard for skilled hands. Consumers are confident, small business are confident, family incomes are up, and the Democrats have had enough.

They said President Barack Obama did this invigorating thing and that the tax breaks were just for the rich. But while the Obama plan had its pluses, the economy grew despite him, not because of him, and even then very slowly. The thing about tax cuts is not whether they might benefit some with fat wallets, but whether they are for the overall good of the society, and they were. And if you really want unemployment lines circling around the block, go back to some of the highest corporate taxes in the world.

The Democrats, who could change things as midterm victors with shut-down-the-government budget games, are more and more socialists these days. They don't get it that, without adjustments, Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid will be consuming all federal revenue in not so many years. What they want is more money spent on all of these – in fact, Medicare for everyone – along with guaranteed jobs, free college, forgiving student loans, paid family leave and redone infrastructure. What you are talking about is tens of trillions of extra spending over the next decade and you won't get there with taxes that would only achieve equality of destitution.

The debt would kill us and Trump might not mind so much since he is already reluctant to do much about it or to touch Social Security. He is right to want to restructure infrastructure, but it ought to be done with public-private partnerships while killing other programs to pay for it. Meantime, Trump is working on another way to destroy the economy—his tariffs that are already raising prices, reducing exports and costing jobs, and, on this issue, many Democrats are with him, especially gung ho to get China to play fair.

Democrats have long been protectionist for the sake of union support and don't care that ratification of the Trans-Pacific Partnership would unite lots of Asia in ways that could effectively constrain China, especially with help from Europe. Overall, the American people would be better off with this trade deal, but, look, there are votes and there's the national good and we know what comes in second.

From the start of Trump's presidency to the court clash today, there has been an effort to outdo him in outrages. A major effort has been to depose him even if that requires the demolition of our beloved system, as in the FBI turning against its principles. Here's a means as bad as a Russian collusion.

By JAY AMBROSE
Tribune News Service

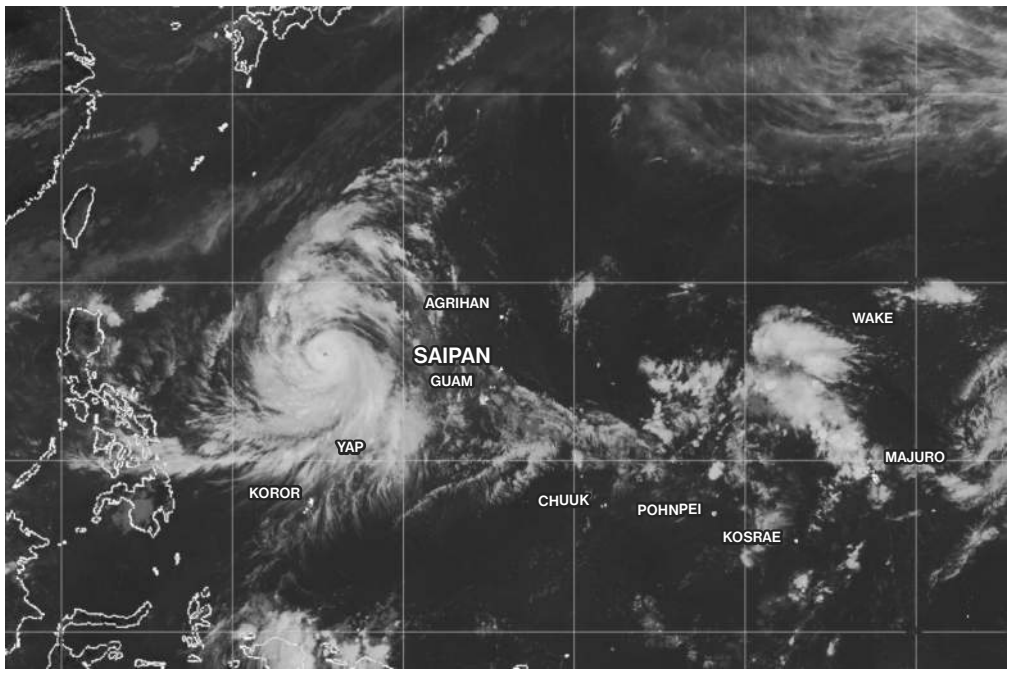
Jay Ambrose is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service. Readers may email him at speaktojay@aol.com.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 9:25 AM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows mid level clouds over the Marianas. These are left over from an area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with converging flow into Typhoon Kong-Rey west of the Marianas. To the east are some thunderstorms associated with an upper-level low. For the time being, we are going to be between these features and will have a few days of quiet weather.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	86° / 78°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 81°
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	88° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	86° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	63° / 54°
Beijing	Sunny	81° / 48°
Hong Kong	Sunny	84° / 73°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 76°
London	Cloudy	70° / 52°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	77° / 66°
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	64° / 50°
Miami	Thunderstorms	89° / 80°
New York	Thunderstorms	80° / 68°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	77° / 63°
Paris	Cloudy	64° / 57°
Busan	Sunny	75° / 63°
Rome	Showers	72° / 57°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	87° / 68°
San Francisco	Rain	68° / 58°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	73° / 52°
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	73° / 64°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	82° / 69°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
6:49 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.06
2:06 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.70
7:28 PM	LOW TIDE	1.19
-	-	-

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:05 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:05 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:04 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:17 AM	11:58 PM
Wednesday	-	1:16 PM	-
Thursday	12:58 AM	2:12 PM	-
Friday	1:59 AM	3:07 PM	-
Saturday	3:00 AM	3:58 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA105	4:55am	5:41am	3, 5
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
UA104	11:30pm	12:16am+1	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW9308	1:10am	4:10am	3, 4
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW9308	3:20am	6:30am	2
TW9308	3:25am	6:30am	5
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW9307	6:30pm	12:10am+1	2, 3
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ625	8:40pm	2:10am+1	7
TW9307	9:00pm	2:20am+1	1
TW9307	9:05pm	2:25am+1	4
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:35am	2, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	8:20pm	2:50am+1	1, 5

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:55pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	8:45am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	8:45am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	8:45am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174 via GUM	10:25pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
PR110/UA174	10:55pm	7:45am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:30am	8:25am	1
UO43	6:00am	8:40am	1, 3, 5
UA117/159	8:45am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:25am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:30am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Canada-US reach free trade deal with Mexico

TORONTO (AP)—Canada and the United States reached a deal Sunday night for Canada to stay in a free trade pact with the U.S. and Mexico.

In a joint statement late Sunday, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland said the agreement "will strengthen the middle class, and create good, well-paying jobs and new opportunities for the nearly half billion people who call North America home."

AP

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau leaves the Office of the Prime Minister and Privy Council after an agreement was reached in the NAFTA negotiations in Ottawa, Ontario, Sunday, Sept. 30, 2018.

The new deal, reached just before a midnight deadline imposed by the U.S., will be called the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA. It replaces the 24-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement, which President Donald Trump had called a job-killing disaster.

The agreement reached Sunday gives U.S. farmers greater access to the Canadian dairy market. But it keeps a NAFTA dispute-resolution process that the U.S. wanted to jettison and offers Canada protection if Trump goes ahead with plans to impose tariffs on cars, trucks and auto parts imported into the United States.

"It's a good day for Canada," Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said as he left his office. Trudeau said he would have more to say Monday.

"We celebrate a trilateral deal. The door closes on trade fragmentation in the region," Jesus Seade, trade negotiator for Mexico's incoming president, said via Twitter.

Representatives for the government of Mexican president-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador have called a press conference to discuss details of the trade deal on Monday.

Canada, the United States' No. 2 trading partner, was left out when the U.S. and Mexico reached an agreement last month to revamp the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The Trump administration officially notified Congress of the U.S.-Mexico trade agreement on Aug. 31. That started a 90-day clock that would let outgoing Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto sign the new pact before he leaves office Dec. 1.

Trump threatened to go ahead with a revamped NAFTA — with or without Canada. It was unclear, however, whether Trump had authority from Congress to pursue a revamped NAFTA with only Mexico.

Some lawmakers immediately expressed relief that Canada had been reinstated in the regional trading bloc. "I am pleased that the Trump administration was able to strike a deal to modernize NAFTA with both Mexico and Canada," said Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah. "NAFTA is a proven success."

NAFTA tore down most trade barriers between the United States, Canada and Mexico, leading to a surge in trade between the three countries. But Trump and other critics said it encouraged manufacturers to move south of the border to take advantage of low-wage Mexican wages, costing American jobs.

Trump campaigned on a promise to rewrite NAFTA — or get rid of it. Talks on a rewrite began more than a year ago. To placate Trump, Mexico agreed in August to provisions that would require 40 percent to 45 percent of a car be built in countries where auto workers earn at least $16 an hour to qualify for NAFTA's duty-free benefits.

U.S.-Canada talks bogged down earlier this month, and most trade analysts expected the Sept. 30 deadline to come and go without Canada being reinstated. They suspected that Canada, which had said it wasn't bound by U.S. deadlines, was delaying the talks until after provincial elections Monday in Quebec, where support for Canadian dairy tariffs runs high.

California's tough net neutrality bill provokes American lawsuit

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—California Gov. Jerry Brown signed the nation's toughest net neutrality measure Sunday, requiring internet providers to maintain a level playing field online. The move prompted an immediate lawsuit by the Trump administration.

Advocates of net neutrality hope the new law in the home of the global technology industry will have national implications by pushing Congress to enact national net neutrality rules or encouraging other states to follow suit.

But the U.S. Department of Justice wants to stop the law, arguing that it creates burdensome, anti-consumer requirements that go against the federal government's approach of deregulating the internet.

"Once again the California Legislature has enacted an extreme and illegal state law attempting to frustrate federal policy," U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions said in a statement.

The law is the latest example of the nation's most populous state seeking to drive public policy outside its borders and rebuff President Donald Trump's agenda.

Brown did not explain his reasons for signing the bill or comment on the federal lawsuit Sunday night.

Supporters of the new law cheered it as a win for internet freedom. It is set to take effect Jan. 1.

"This is a historic day for California. A free and open internet is a cornerstone of 21st century life: our democracy, our economy, our health care and public safety systems, and day-to-day activities," said Democratic Sen. Scott Wiener, the law's author.

The Federal Communications Commission last year repealed rules that prevented internet companies from exercising more control over what people watch and see on the internet.

Telecommunications companies lobbied hard to kill it or water it down, saying it would lead to higher internet and cellphone bills and discourage investments in faster internet. They say it's unrealistic to expect them to comply with internet regulations that differ from state to state.

USTelecom, a telecommunications trade group, said California writing its own rules will create problems.

"Rather than 50 states stepping in with their own conflicting open internet solutions, we need Congress to step up with a national framework for the whole internet ecosystem and resolve this issue once and for all," the group said in a Sunday statement.

Moving on from being fired for poor performance

Q: I was recently fired for making too many mistakes. Although my manager followed the required disciplinary steps, I believe the entire process was flawed. In my opinion, I was targeted and treated unfairly.

Several months ago, I learned that my manager had directed a coworker to review all my work. This person was not my supervisor and had no right to check on me. When I confronted my boss, she replied that an internal audit had shown I was making too many errors.

The mistakes my coworker found were documented and used as evidence against me. I was given several warnings and eventually let go. When I complained to human resources and upper management, they supported my termination. How I could have kept my job in light of this unfair treatment?

A: Regarding performance issues, employees and managers often see things differently. What you view as "unfair treatment" your employer would undoubtedly describe as "preventing mistakes."

Granted, your manager should have advised you that a colleague would be reviewing your work. Discovering this unexpectedly must have been embarrassing. However, the real issue is that you were making critical errors, so fixing that problem was the key to remaining employed.

When presented with a performance warning, most people react in the worst possible way. They argue, get defensive and insist their boss is wrong. But this automatic pushback, while understandable, only convinces management that the employee didn't get the message and is therefore unlikely to change.

For job security, a better response is to acknowledge concerns, clarify expectations and request a time to assess progress. Employees who receive written warnings must also understand that HR and upper management will have already approved that step. Supervisors are seldom allowed to take disciplinary action independently.

For your own benefit, make an effort to detach from the past and start thinking about the future. The only reason to focus on your former job is to learn the lessons that might help you succeed in the next one.

Q: I'm afraid the current political climate may interfere with my getting a job. After spending many years in government, I would like to find a position in the private sector. However, most of my experience has been partisan in nature, working either on national campaigns or in the White House many years ago.

Given the deep political divisions today, I worry that people with opposing views will automatically reject my resume. I have considered using vague terms to describe my work, but that might look as though I'm lying. What would you suggest?

A: Crafting a completely nonpartisan description of your background could render your resume meaningless. However, emphasizing positions instead of politics might make it appear more neutral.

For example, if you list "communications director" with the White House as your employer, the dates will obviously reveal which party was in power. But if you describe your responsibilities without using political terms, a prospective employer may disregard your party affiliation.

Also, you might be overestimating your obstacles. While a quarter of the population may reject you out of hand, folks on the other end of the spectrum will consider your politics a plus. And those who are uncommitted will primarily be concerned with your qualifications.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
Tribune News Service

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Nation

Some fear Kavanaugh's fate may bode ill for GOP either way

NEW YORK (AP)—Whether or not Republicans ultimately confirm President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee, some on the front lines of the GOP's midterm battlefield fear the party may have already lost.

In the days after a divided nation watched Brett Kavanaugh and his accuser Christine Blasey Ford deliver conflicting stories about what happened when they were teenagers, Republican campaign operatives acknowledged this is not the fight they wanted six weeks before Election Day.

Should they give Kavanaugh a lifetime appointment to the nation's highest court after Ford's powerful testimony about sexual assault, Republicans risk enraging the women they need to preserve their House majority. Vote him down, they risk enraging the party's defiant political base.

In swing state New Hampshire, former Republican Party chair Jennifer Horn said Republicans are "grossly underestimating the damage that would be done" at the ballot box in the short and long term should they confirm Kavanaugh.

Horn, a lifelong Republican and frequent Trump critic, described Ford as "the most credible person I have ever seen publicly talk about this." One young friend of Horn's family was so inspired by the testimony that she revealed her own painful experience with sexual assault on social media for the first time Thursday.

"Republicans have to ask themselves if they're willing not only to sell the soul of the party, but sell their own souls to get this particular conservative on the Supreme Court," Horn said in an interview.

AP

Two women chant their slogan outside Los Angeles City Hall during a protest against Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh Friday, Sept. 28, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Another wing of the party was just as convinced that Republicans would trigger Election Day doom should they fail to confirm Trump's Supreme Court pick.

"If Republicans do not get this vote taken and Kavanaugh confirmed, you can kiss the midterms goodbye," conservative icon Rush Limbaugh boomed from his radio studio this week, a message that Trump echoed on Twitter and Republican strategists repeated privately on Friday.

In what has become the year of the woman in national politics, there are no easy answers for a party aligned with a president who has dismissed more than a dozen allegations of sexual misconduct of his own.

The GOP-controlled Senate Judiciary Committee voted along party lines Friday to send Kavanaugh's nomination to the full Senate, with the informal understanding that the FBI would investigate the allegations against Kavanaugh. A final vote would be delayed by a week.

Sen. Jeff Flake of Arizona crystalized the challenge before the GOP. After announcing his support for Kavanaugh early Friday, he was confronted by tearful victims of sexual assault as he tried to board an elevator in the U.S. Capitol.

"Look at me when I'm talking to you," one woman cried as Flake stood uncomfortably in the elevator. "You're telling me that my assault doesn't matter, that what happened to me doesn't matter, that you're going to let people who do these things into power."

Flake later insisted on the FBI investigation to secure his vote allowing Kavanaugh's nomination to move out of the Judiciary Committee. He is retiring at the end of the year and the Republican congresswoman seeking to replace him, Martha McSally, said nothing for much of this week before releasing a statement Friday afternoon noting Kavanaugh and Ford were "heard."

"The Senate's role is to provide advice and consent on this nomination, and to seek the truth," McSally said. "I encourage them to use the next week to gather any additional relevant facts, and then act on this nomination."

The balancing act reflects the impossible politics ahead for some Republican candidates, particularly those in swing states and suburban House districts.

McSally has come out as a survivor of sexual abuse at the hands of her high school track coach. At the same time, she has strongly embraced Trump and his combative ethos, which Kavanaugh exemplified during his Thursday testimony.

She indirectly criticized Trump last week after he questioned why Ford didn't report her assault decades ago.

"A lot of people who have not been through this — thank God they have not been through this — don't understand that a lot of us don't immediately go to law enforcement," McSally said.

Two key Republicans — Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski and Maine Sen. Susan Collins — have also avoided taking a firm position so far. Neither is up for re-election this year, yet both are facing intense political pressure from the right and left back home, with the potential that aftershocks from their votes could be felt for years to come.

Cindy Noyes, a registered Republican in Maine, attended public schools with Collins and usually agrees with her. But not if she backs Kavanaugh.

"It'd be hard for me not to support her, but I really, really, really encourage her to vote against him," Noyes said of Collins, who doesn't face reelection until 2020.

In Alaska, Juneau voter Sally Saddler, an independent, said she voted for Murkowski in the past, but likely wouldn't back her again if the Republican senator decides to confirm Kavanaugh.

Tips sought from public after car explosion that left 3 dead

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP)—Autopsies are planned Monday on the bodies of three people found dead after a car explosion on a downtown street in what authorities called a "criminal incident" being probed by federal, state and local authorities.

Three males were found dead after the 9:30 p.m. Saturday blast in Allentown, said Lehigh County Coroner Scott Grim, who added that he would probably be able to release the names after their identities are confirmed and their families notified.

The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is leading the investigation along with the FBI, state police, and city and county authorities. Officials said the blast was believed to have been an isolated incident with no ongoing threat to the public.

"We know there's been a criminal incident," District Attorney James Martin told reporters at a news conference Sunday. "We have a high degree of confidence that the perpetrator was probably killed in the incident."

Authorities released no information about the possible cause of the blast, including whether it was a bomb, but Martin said "loads of us in law enforcement" are confident "this was A. an isolated incident and B. there's no continuing threat."

Authorities are seeking the public's help and asked anyone with information to call the ATF.

Resident Carlos Perodin told The Morning Call of Allentown that he was watching a movie with his wife when he heard a thunderous explosion and went to the scene.

"The fire was crazy," he said. "The car was pretty much split in half."

Stephanie Connelly, who saw the aftermath of the explosion, told The Morning Call that she saw body parts strewn across the street.

A bus station was turned into a makeshift command center with armored vehicles, dozens of police cruisers, mobile command units and even portable bathrooms, the paper reported. Several portable tents were also erected for evidence processing.

Residents were asked to avoid the area, and people who live nearby were asked to shelter in place. A shelter was set up at an elementary school. Officials asked anyone who witnessed the blast or had information about it to contact investigators.

Trump on Kim: Tough talk ... 'and then we fell in love'

WHEELING, W. Va. (AP)—President Donald Trump told a cheering crowd at a campaign rally that there was once tough talk "back and forth" between him and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un "and then we fell in love."

Trump said at the Saturday night rally in West Virginia: "He wrote me beautiful letters and they're great letters. We fell in love."

He joked about criticism he would get from the news media for making a comment some would consider "unpresidential" and for being so positive about the North Korean leader.

"Why has President Trump given up so much?" Trump said in his mock "news anchor" voice. "I didn't give up anything."

He noted that Kim is interested in a second meeting after their initial meeting in Singapore in June was hailed by Trump as a big step toward denuclearization of North Korea.

But denuclearization negotiations have stalled.

More than three months after the June summit in Singapore, North Korea's top diplomat Ri Yong Ho told world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly Saturday that the North doesn't see a "corresponding response" from the U.S. to North Korea's early disarmament moves. Instead, he noted, the U.S. is continuing sanctions aimed at keeping up pressure.

Trump took a much more optimistic view in his rally speech.

"We're doing great with North Korea," he said. "We were going to war with North Korea. Millions of people would have been killed. Now we have this great relationship."

He said his efforts to improve relations with Kim have brought positive results—ending rocket tests, helping free hostages and getting the remains of American servicemen returned home.

And he defended his unusual approach in talking about relations with Kim.

"It's so easy to be presidential, but instead of having 10,000 people outside trying to get into this packed arena, we'd have about 200 people standing right there," Trump said, pointing at the crowd directly in front of him.

Asia

Warning system might have saved lives in Indonesian tsunami

MAKASSAR, Indonesia (AP)—An early warning system that might have prevented some deaths in the tsunami that hit an Indonesian island on Friday has been stalled in the testing phase for years.

The high-tech system of seafloor sensors, data-laden sound waves and fiber-optic cable was meant to replace a system set up after an earthquake and tsunami killed nearly 250,000 people in the region in 2004. But inter-agency wrangling and delays in getting just 1 billion rupiah ($69,000) to complete the project mean the system hasn't moved beyond a prototype developed with $3 million from the U.S. National Science Foundation.

It is too late for central Sulawesi, where walls of water up to 6 meters (20 feet) high and a magnitude 7.5 earthquake killed at least 832 people in the cities of Palu and Donggala, tragically highlighting the weaknesses of the existing warning system and low public awareness about how to respond to warnings.

"To me this is a tragedy for science, even more so a tragedy for the Indonesian people as the residents of Sulawesi are discovering right now," said Louise Comfort, a University of Pittsburgh expert in disaster management who has led the U.S. side of the project, which also involves engineers from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute and Indonesian scientists and disaster experts.

"It's a heartbreak to watch when there is a well-designed sensor network that could provide critical information," she said.

After a 2004 tsunami killed 230,000 people in a dozen countries, more than half of them in the Indonesian province of Aceh, a concerted international effort was launched to improve tsunami warning capabilities, particularly in the Indian Ocean and for Indonesia, one of world's most earthquake and tsunami-prone countries.

Part of that drive, using funding from Germany and elsewhere, included deploying a network of 22 buoys connected to seafloor sensors to transmit advance warnings.

A sizeable earthquake off Sumatra island in 2016 that caused panic in the coastal city of Padang revealed that none of the buoys costing hundreds of thousands of dollars each were working. They'd been disabled by vandalism or theft or just stopped working due to a lack of funds for maintenance.

The backbone of Indonesia's tsunami warning system today is a network of 134 tidal gauge stations augmented by land-based seismographs, sirens in about 55 locations and a system to disseminate warnings by text message.

When the 7.5 quake hit just after 6 p.m. Friday, the meteorology and geophysics agency issued a tsunami alert, warning of potential for waves of 0.5 to 3 meters (2 to 10 feet). It ended the warning at 6:36 p.m. That drew harsh online criticism, but the agency's head said the warning was lifted after the tsunami hit. It's unclear exactly what time tsunami waves rushed into the narrow bay that Palu is built around.

"The tide gauges are operating, but they are limited in providing any advance warning. None of the 22 buoys are functioning," Comfort said. "In the Sulawesi incident, BMKG (the meteorology and geophysics agency) canceled the tsunami warning too soon, because it did not have data from Palu. This is the data the tsunami detection system could provide."

Adam Switzer, a tsunami expert at the Earth Observatory of Singapore, said it's a "little unfair" to say the agency got it wrong.

"What it shows is that the tsunami models we have now are too simplistic," he said. "They don't take into account multiple events, multiple quakes within a short period of time. They don't take into account submarine landslides."

Whatever system is in use, he said, the priority after an earthquake in a coastal area should be to get to higher ground and stay there for a couple of hours.

Power outages after the earthquake struck meant that sirens meant to warn residents to evacuate did not work, said Harkunti P. Rahayu, an expert at the Institute of Technology in Bandung.

"Most people were shocked by the earthquake and did not pay any thought that a tsunami will come," she said.

Experts say the prototype system deployed offshore from Padang—a city extremely vulnerable to tsunamis because it faces a major undersea fault overdue for a massive quake—can provide authoritative information about a tsunami threat within 1 to 3 minutes. That compares with 5 to 45 minutes from the now defunct buoys and the limited information provided by tidal gauges.

AP

Indonesian rescue team inspect the damage of Roa-Roa Hotel following a massive earthquake and tsunami in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia, Monday, Oct. 1, 2018.

Typhoon pummels Japan; flights canceled, trains shut down

TOKYO (AP)—A powerful typhoon ripped through Japan on Sunday, forcing cancellations of flights and trains, including in the Tokyo area as authorities warned of strong winds and torrential rain.

Farms and homes in Miyazaki on the southern main island of Kyushu were flooded as Typhoon Trami swept across southwestern Japan. Evacuation orders were issued for tens of thousands of people over a widespread area, including more than 250,000 people in the city of Tokushima on the island of Shikoku, the national broadcaster NHK reported.

At least 51 people were injured in southern Japan, it said.

Many flights were canceled at major airports throughout Japan, including Tokyo's Narita and Haneda. The storm destroyed power lines on the southern islands of Okinawa on Saturday.

Trami was expected to hit Tokyo late Sunday, and slam northern Japan on Monday.

Bullet trains and other train lines were shutting down while the storm passed. Tokyo's train lines announced they were shutting down after 8 p.m. (11 GMT).

The typhoon is projected to hit regions ravaged earlier this month by Typhoon Jebi, which caused landslides and floods and temporarily shuttered Kansai International Airport. The strongest typhoon to hit Japan in 25 years, Jebi caused 11 deaths in and around Osaka.

The airport also was closed for this latest typhoon.

In July, heavy rain in western Japan killed 221 people, setting off landslides and flooding.

South Korea begins removing mines, expects North to do same

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea began clearing mines from two sites inside the heavily fortified border with North Korea on Monday under tension-reducing agreements reached this year. Seoul says North Korea is expected to do the same.

The development comes amid renewed international diplomacy on North Korea's nuclear weapons program after weeks of stalemated negotiations. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is to visit Pyongyang this month to try to set up a second summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

South Korean troops entered the Demilitarized Zone on Monday morning to remove mines around the border village of Panmunjom and another frontline area where the rivals plan their first joint searches with North Korea for soldiers during the 1950-53 Korean War, according to Seoul's Defense Ministry.

The South Korean troops will try to focus on taking out mines on the southern parts of Panmunjom's Joint Security Area and the so-called "Arrow Head Hill," where one of the fiercest battles during the Korean War happened. Seoul officials believe the remains of about 300 South Korean and U.N. forces are in the Arrow Head Hill and likely many Chinese and North Korean remains too.

South Korean Defense Ministry officials said they couldn't immediately confirm whether North Korea also began demining on the northern parts of the two sites. But they said they expected the North to abide by the tension-easing deals their defense chiefs struck on the sidelines of their leaders' summit last month in Pyongyang.

Aiming to reduce conventional military threats, the Koreas' defense chiefs also agreed to withdraw 11 frontline guard posts by December and set up buffer zones along their land and sea boundaries and a no-fly zone above the borderline to prevent accidental armed clashes.

About 2 million mines are believed to be peppered inside the Koreas' 248-kilometer (155-mile)-long Demilitarized Zone that was originally created as a buffer zone at the end of the Korean War. The DMZ is the world's most heavily fortified border that is also guarded by hundreds of thousands of combat troops, barbed wire fences and tank traps on both sides.

Many experts say the fate of inter-Korean deals can be affected by how nuclear negotiations would go between the United States and North Korea. Past rapprochement efforts were often stalled after an international standoff over the North's nuclear ambitions intensified.

After provocative tests of three intercontinental ballistic missiles and a powerful nuclear weapon last year, North Korea entered talks with the United States and South Korea earlier this year, saying it's willing to deal away its expanding nuclear arsenal. Kim Jong Un has subsequently held a series of summits with U.S., South Korean and Chinese leaders and taken some steps like dismantling his nuclear-testing site.

Nuclear diplomacy later came to a standstill amid disputes over how genuine North Korea is about its disarmament pledge. But Trump, Pompeo and other U.S. officials have recently reported progress in the denuclearization discussions with the North. Pompeo is to make his third trip to North Korea soon for talks.

World

Iran Guard launches missiles into Syria over parade attack

AP

In this photo released on Monday, Oct. 1, 2018, by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard, missiles are fired from city of Kermanshah in western Iran targeting the Islamic State group in Syria.

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard said Monday that it launched ballistic missiles into eastern Syria, targeting militants the force blames for a recent attack on a military parade. The launch was the Islamic Republic's second such missile attack on Syria in over a year.

Iranian state television and the state-run IRNA news agency said the attacks "killed and wounded" militants in Syria, without elaborating. Syrian state media did not immediately acknowledge the strike.

The TV aired footage of one of its reporters standing by as one of the missiles was launched, identifying the area as being in Iran's western province of Kermanshah. A state TV-aired graphic suggested the missiles flew over central Iraq near the city of Tikrit before landing near the city of Abu Kamal, in the far southeast of Syria.

Abu Kamal is held by forces loyal to Syria's embattled President Bashar Assad. However, the city has been targeted even now by militants from the extremist Islamic State group, who have lost almost all the territory they once held in Syria and Iraq.

One missile shown on state television bore the slogans "Death to America, Death to Israel, Death to Al Saud," referring to Saudi Arabia's ruling family. The missile also bore in Arabic the phrase "kill the friends of Satan," referring to a verse in the Quran on fighting infidels.

"This is the roaring of missiles belonging to the Revolutionary Guard of the Islamic Revolution," the state TV's reporter said as the missiles launched behind him. "In a few minutes, the world of arrogance — especially America, the Zionist regime and the Al Saud — will hear the sound of Iran's repeated blows."

The semi-official Fars news agency, believed to be close to the Guard, identified the six missiles used as Zolfaghar and Qiam variants, which have ranges of 750 kilometers (465 miles) and 800 kilometers (500 miles) respectively.

Iran also launched drone attacks on the site afterward, state TV reported.

The attack adds to confusion over who carried out an assault on a military parade in Ahvaz on Sept. 22 that killed at least 24 people and wounded over 60.

Iran initially blamed Arab separatists for the attack in which gunmen disguised as soldiers opened fire on the crowd and officials watching the parade from a viewing platform in the southwestern city. Arab separatists also immediately claimed the attack and offered details about one of the attackers that ultimately turned out to be true.

The Islamic State group also claimed responsibility for the assault, but initially made factually incorrect claims about it. Later, IS released footage of several men that Iran ultimately identified as attackers, though the men in the footage never pledged allegiance to the extremist group.

In announcing the attack, Iranian state media said the missiles targeted both "takfiri" militants — a term it often applies to the Islamic State group — and Ahvazi separatists. The separatists have not been known to work with IS in the past.

This is the third time in the last couple of years that Iran has fired its ballistic missiles in anger.

Last year, Iran fired ballistic missiles into Syria over a bloody IS attack on Tehran targeting parliament and the shrine of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. In September, Iran fired missiles into Iraq targeting a base of an Iranian Kurdish separatist group. The separatists say that strike killed at least 11 people and wounded 50.

Boko Haram has been repelled, Cameroon's leader declares

YAOUNDE, Cameroon (AP)—Cameroon's president says Boko Haram has been defeated in the country, the first such announcement since he declared war on the extremist group four years ago.

President Paul Biya spoke during his first visit to the Far North region since 2012 as he campaigned on Saturday ahead of the Oct. 7 election. The 85-year-old, one of Africa's longest-serving leaders, has been in power since 1982 and is likely to win again as the fractured opposition has been unable to put forward a strong candidate.

Security is a major issue in Cameroon, a U.S. and French military ally, as it also faces a bloody English-language separatist movement in the southwest and northwest.

Addressing a rally in Maroua, Biya said he would focus on rebuilding what has been destroyed in the Far North "now that terrorism has been defeated."

The region for years has been the target of suicide bombings and other attacks by Boko Haram fighters who spilled over the border from Nigeria, where the extremist group is based. Nearly a quarter-million people in Cameroon have been displaced.

Boko Haram has not carried out a major attack in Cameroon in the past year and the number of attacks has fallen. Its fighters continue to attack military targets and cities in Nigeria's northeast despite repeated government declarations that it has been "crushed."

Biya warned Far North residents to remain vigilant despite recent progress including the re-opening last month of 40 schools along the border.

Not everyone warmed to the president's comments at the rally.

Biya had abandoned the Far North and its people, said Garga Haman Adji, candidate with the Alliance for Democracy and Development opposition party.

"Biya never visited to encourage the soldiers who fought to defeat Boko Haram. He never visited people suffering from terrorism and is now here to beg for votes," Garga said.

The fight against Boko Haram has raised questions about Cameroon's security forces. Shocking videos that recently circulated online showed soldiers shooting defenseless civilians including women with young children strapped to their backs, Amnesty International said after expert analysis. Cameroon's government has announced several arrests related to one of the videos and said any alleged abuses will be investigated.

Biya has not announced any campaign visits to the troubled southwest and northwest where fighting between government forces and the Anglophone separatists has killed nearly 400 people and sent nearly 200,000 civilians fleeing.

A heavy military deployment and recent crackdown on suspected separatist hideouts especially in the southwest, however, indicates that the president intends to visit in an effort to show the world that in spite of the tensions he remains in control.

Biya last visited the southwest in 2014 and the northwest in 2010.

The unrest began in 2016 when teachers and lawyers peacefully expressed dissatisfaction with what some English speakers, who make up about 20 percent of the country's population, have called marginalization by French-speaking authorities in the officially bilingual country.

The armed separatist movement followed with the declaration of an independent state called "Ambazonia." In recent weeks both weary civilians caught in the middle of the fighting and Cameroonian religious leaders have called for peace.

The separatists vow to disrupt next week's elections.

WORLD BRIEFS

UK's Johnson brands Theresa May's Brexit plan 'deranged'

LONDON (AP)—Ex-Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson has branded British Prime Minister Theresa May's plan for leaving the European Union "deranged," fueling tensions as the ruling Conservative Party holds its annual conference. Johnson told the Sunday Times that May's Brexit plan won't work, particularly proposals that would require Britain and the EU to collect each other's tariffs. "It is entirely preposterous," he said. "The idea that we could ask customs officers in Dubrovnik and Santander to charge British-only tariffs is deranged, and nobody thinks it can work. There will be economic and political damage to the U.K." May is under siege from members of her own party as the Conservatives open their annual conference Sunday in the central England city of Birmingham. While most conferences offer a chance for the leader to rally the troops, May's goal at this four-day gathering is to survive amid deepening opposition to her Brexit plan and growing support for a second referendum on Britain's EU membership.

Boat capsizes off Turkey's Aegean coast, 5 migrants killed

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—Turkey's state-run news agency says a boat carrying migrants has capsized off Turkey's northern Aegean coast, killing at least five people. The capsizing occurred as a rare and powerful Mediterranean storm is causing torrential rains in parts of Greece and Turkey. The Anadolu Agency said the rubber boat capsized Sunday off the town of Enez in Edirne province. The town is not far from the northern Greek coastal town of Alexandroupolis. It said it was not immediately clear how many migrants were on the boat and rescue crews were scouring the area for possible survivors or more bodies. Although their numbers have decreased in recent years, migrants still try and cross into Greece from nearby Turkey in the hopes of making their way to other European countries.

Focus

As immigrants flow across US border, American guns go south

AP

In this Jan. 25, 2011, file photo, a cache of seized weapons that were to be smuggled into Mexico is displayed in Phoenix. Among the thousands of immigrants who have been coming across the U.S.-Mexico border in recent months, many are seeking to escape gang and drug violence raging in their homelands. The weapon of choice used to intimidate them is often an American-made gun. Gun-control advocates and some experts say the very violence that immigrants are fleeing is carried out by American guns that are smuggled over the border.

By LISA MARIE PANE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Among the thousands of immigrants who have been coming across the U.S.-Mexico border in recent months, many are seeking to escape gang and drug violence raging in their homelands. The weapon of choice used to intimidate them? Often an American-made gun.

While the flow of drugs and immigrants into the U.S. has been well-documented for decades and become a regular part of the political debate, what is often overlooked is how gangs and drug cartels exploit weaknesses at the border to smuggle guns from the U.S. into Latin America.

A 2013 report by the University of San Diego says the number of firearms smuggled from the United States was so significant that nearly half of American gun dealers rely on that business to stay afloat. On average, an estimated 253,000 firearms each year are purchased in the United States expressly to be sent to Mexico, the report said, the vast majority of the sales originating in the border states of California, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.

Once in Mexico, the weapons end up in the hands of drug cartels or get shipped to gangs in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador — countries that are dealing with an epidemic of gun violence.

Armed holdups on public transportation are a regular occurrence in Honduras, where nearly half of the unregistered weapons originated in the U.S., the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives reported in recent years.

Gun violence in El Salvador is so rampant that the country has been averaging more than one shootout a day between police and gangs this year, said Ricardo Sosa, a criminologist specializing in gangs and security in El Salvador.

"In every one of these operations, police are able to seize between two and six firearms at the scene," he said. "That is one of the indicators that the gangs are armed on many occasions with long guns and short guns for each one of their members."

Mexico last year recorded its highest number of murders in nearly two decades, with more than 31,000 people killed, higher than even during the country's drug war in 2011. It continues unabated with an average of 88 people killed each day in the first five months of this year.

The bloodshed in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador has been a big driver of immigration into the U.S., with the government saying nearly 16,000 families came across the border in August alone — many of them from those three countries.

Gun-control groups contend that the U.S. government is essentially exporting gang violence to Latin America with permissive gun laws — which in turn creates an immigration crisis along the border.

"If the Trump administration were serious about wanting to stop refugees from fleeing violence in Latin America and Mexico to come north, they would be doing something about the southward gun trafficking that is fueling a lot of that migration," said Adam Skaggs, chief counsel with the Giffords Law Center.

Gun-rights activists say the issue is overblown and mischaracterized.

The National Rifle Association and other gun-rights groups contend the most effective way to combat the problem is not with stricter gun laws but by eradicating drug cartels and other criminal enterprises.

They say the numbers are inflated and that the industry has proactively sought to educate licensed gun dealers on how to detect "straw purchases," in which a firearm is bought expressly to give it to someone who otherwise would not be able to legally own a gun.

"Obviously, Mexico has a huge problem with rampant corruption that clearly cannot be blamed on the U.S.," the NRA said in a position paper on the issue in 2009. "At the same time, Mexico has extremely prohibitive gun laws, yet has far worse crime than the U.S."

Under the Obama administration, federal authorities launched an operation dubbed Fast and Furious that allowed criminals to buy firearms with the intention of tracking them to criminal organizations. But the ATF lost most of the guns, including two that were found at the scene of a slaying of a U.S. Border Patrol agent.

In 2011, gun dealers along the border states were required to report to the ATF anytime someone purchased two or more semiautomatic long guns in a five-day period.

President Donald Trump issued an executive order in 2017 as his response to gun trafficking, directing federal agencies to ramp up prosecution aimed at going after foreign criminals and to improve coordination among federal agencies along the border.

Nabbing the guns at the border is a challenge on several levels. They aren't as detectable as drug shipments, and they can be disassembled and loaded with legal goods making their way from the U.S.

"The effectiveness of this kind of gun smuggling still remains very high. It doesn't take a whole lot," said David Shirk, one of the University of San Diego report's authors.

Experts say a big reason gun trafficking remains one of the hot commodities flowing from the United States into Latin America is profit.

Retired ATF agent Bernard Zapor noted that an AR-platform firearm that sells retail in the U.S. for $1,000 can fetch more than $4,000 in Mexico. A box of ammo that might go for just under $200 could command $3,000.

"They're not buying grandpa's old shotgun that's been lying around and found in a shed," Zapor said. "They're buying brand new Colt AR-15s."

Overdrive

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

2019 Cadillac XT4 Sport. TNS

It may not be a baby Escalade, but the 2019 Cadillac XT4 is impressive

SEATTLE — For years, General Motors has turned its back on Cadillac's heritage in effort to emulate its German competition.

It hasn't worked out so well as consumers have ignored the German-emulating CTS or ATS sedans in favor of Cadillac's most traditional four-door, the XTS. Similarly, it's the Escalade SUV that yields Cadillac's highest transaction price, and no wonder. It's as close as you can get to a traditional Cadillac of yore: extravagantly big, bold, comfortable, powerful and unapologetic.

Given its success, you'd expect Escalade's essence to filter down to the brand's other trucks. Instead, the midsize XT5 crossover bears little resemblance to its larger sibling, yet it outsells it nearly 2-to-1. This explains why Cadillac's first luxury compact crossover, the 2019 XT4, owes more to the XT5's understated suburban chic than the Escalade's luxurious bravado. It's an initial salvo in a stream of new Cadillacs being launched over the next two years in an effort to restore brand's luxury luster.

Filling a gaping hole in the lineup, the 2019 Cadillac XT4 follows the premium compact crossover template, yet it's distinctively a Cadillac, wearing the brand's new grille and accented by vertical LED lighting and sharp body lines. It makes itself seen, if a bit more quietly than its largest sibling.

Power comes from a 2.0-liter turbocharged double-overhead-cam four-cylinder engine mated to a nine-speed automatic transmission with automatic stop/start. Cadillac says the new engine is 15 pounds lighter than the existing power plant of the same displacement and uses new technologies that makes it up to 15 percent more efficient. Part of the credit goes to the automatic stop/start, which unlike too many German competitors, is blessedly unobtrusive and quick.

Rated at 237 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque, the engine produces its peak torque at just 1,500 rpm, so it feels willingly quick off the line, easily pumps out the power. Turbo lag is non-existent and engine noise is well suppressed. The transmission proves responsive, quickly and unobtrusively snapping off the shifts. That said, when shifting manually, particularly with the paddle shifters, the transmission seems a bit slower to respond.

Initially, the XT4 will be offered in base Luxury trim, starting at $35,790. From there, buyers can choose either the Premium Luxury or the Sport, both of which start at $40,290. But the Sport does offer adaptive dampers and a livelier suspension, with other differences being mainly cosmetic.

Desirable options include Forward Automatic Braking/ Reverse Automatic Braking/ Adaptive Cruise Control, which make up the $1,100 Driver Assistance Package, although you must also order the $770 Driver Awareness Package. This adds Forward Automatic Braking, Forward Collision Alert, Lane Keep Assist, Lane Departure Warning and automatic headlights. There's also an $850 Cold Weather Package with front and rear heated seats (which Cadillac patented in 1955 and first offered 10 years later) and a heated steering wheel.

NUTS & BOLTS

- **Vehicle:** Compact crossover SUV
- **Base prices:** $35,790-$42,790
- **Engine:** Turbocharged DOHC 2.0-liter four-cylinder
- **Horsepower:** 237
- **Torque:** 258 pound-feet
- **EPA fuel economy (city/highway):** 24/30 (FWD), 22/29 (AWD)
- **Wheelbase:** 109.4 inches
- **Length:** 181.4 inches
- **Cargo capacity:** 22.5-48.9 cubic feet
- **Towing capacity:** 3,500 pounds
- **Curb weight:** 3,660 pounds

The test models were equipped with on-demand four-wheel drive, a $2,500 option, which reverts to front-wheel drive when not needed in the name of fuel economy. Front-wheel drive is standard.

Handling is impressively nimble, with quick, accurate light steering that doesn't feel like a video game. Maneuvering around downtown Seattle was stress-free. Body lean is well-controlled but noticeable, with impressive grip that lent drivers a feeling of confidence and comfort. Bump absorption is impressive, without undue body motions on rebound. And despite the difference in names, there seemed to be minimal differences in driving feel between the Sport and Premium Luxury models. However, highway and tire noise are surprisingly prevalent, but not enough to drown out conversation. That this is an issue in a Cadillac is unexpected.

Front seat occupants enjoy substantial front seat space, with supportive and comfortable front seats. In the rear, passengers will appreciate more legroom than just about any competitor in the segment, although headroom is average. Cargo room seems ample.

The XT4's horizontally-oriented instrument panel is anchored by an 8-inch screen that's controlled by touchscreen or a knob on the center console. It houses an improved version of Cadillac's Cue infotainment system that's Apple CarPlay and Android Auto compatible and far better than previous versions. It was a pleasure to use. Less pleasurable was the feature that transforms the rear-view mirror into a rear-view monitor. It induces vertigo, not to mention motion sickness. Thankfully, it can be turned off. The overall interior trim seems upscale, but not luxurious, especially when the XT4 is trimmed entirely in black, although this is common to this class of vehicle. The two-tone interiors livened the proceedings and felt richer.

The XT4 is unquestionably good, with impressive excellent engineering offset by an interior that's merely competitive and styling that seems timid. That should change somewhat when the new Platinum and V-Sport models arrive at a later date.

The 2019 Cadillac XT4 merits its consideration, even from those who until now would never consider a Cadillac. It's far better than the competition from Lincoln and others.

But it should be a baby Escalade — and it's not.

Larry Printz is an automotive journalist based in South Florida. Readers may send him email at TheDrivingPrintz@gmail.com.

UNDER THE HOOD

Internet is a cornucopia of info on auto repairs

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: You forgot to mention the internet as a place to look for instructions on changing cabin filters. Honda does not have the cabin location in the manual (2012 CRV). Honda wanted to change the air filter and the cabin filter for $129. I replaced both and saved $76, and it took a whole 30 minutes for both.

— Stan

A: Yikes! I blew it when cutting and pasting things, leaving mention of this information goldmine who-knows-where! Good work renewing your own filters!

When contemplating an automotive service procedure or simply trying to find out how something works, often there will be someone presenting a YouTube video on the subject. Another great site for information on a wide range of automotive topics is www.aa1car.com, home of my favorite technical writer, Larry Carley. His information is very well presented! I also appreciate Tire Rack's tech center articles, which cover every imaginable tire/wheel question one could have. Another source of information is forums, which are great for assessing if a fault may be common, but take recommended fixes with a grain — make that a handful — of salt! When curious about a component's characteristics — say, a window regulator prior to door disassembly — I'll often search as if to purchase the part, to get a good look at a photo or illustration of the part. This can sometimes provide hints on what may have gone wrong or how removal/installation may play out. Please let me know of your favorite information sources to share.

Q: I have been noticing my engine cranking slowly first thing in the morning. I remembered someone, perhaps you, recommending to give the battery terminals a yank to check for looseness. Mine were tight, but one was noticeably warmer, almost hot, compared to the other. They appear clean. What does this indicate?

— Curt

A: You nailed it! Even though the cable connections appeared tight and externally clean, the heat you noticed is a clear indicator of a poor connection. There is apparently corrosion buildup where you can't see it between the post and clamp. Another way to confirm a reliable battery terminal connection is to measure the voltage drop across the connection, one meter lead on the post and the other to the clamp while a helper cranks the engine. Greater than 0.2 volts indicates the need for cleaning. Ignore the minus symbol if it appears.

Cleaning top-terminal battery posts/clamps is easy using a Schumacher BAF-BI terminal cleaning brush or similar. You'll want to avoid erasing computer memories by installing a computer memory saver tool prior to disconnecting the cables. The accessory lighter socket type does not work on many cars, as the socket isn't "hot" with the key off. In this case a tool that plugs into the under-dash data connector is the best choice. A 10-foot cord on one of these would allow a second vehicle's battery to provide the needed trickle of electricity. Keep doors closed/interior lights off!

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at bradbergholdt@gmail.com; he cannot make personal replies.

Life & Style

Post-Kevin Spacey, Old Vic 'guardians' fight workplace abuse

LONDON (AP)—A year after it became an unwilling focus for Britain's #MeToo movement, the Old Vic Theatre says it is trying to stamp out abuses of power in all workplaces.

The London theater company once led by actor Kevin Spacey said Monday that 20 cultural organizations have joined it in appointing workplace "guardians," specially trained staff who serve as a first line of defense against bullying, harassment and abuse.

It has been a year since abuse allegations against film mogul Harvey Weinstein spurred women around the world to organize the "Me Too" and "Time's Up" movements, and triggered an outpouring of allegations against powerful men in entertainment, politics, publishing, academia and business.

The scandal rocked the venerable Old Vic when Academy Award-winning actor Spacey, its former artistic director, was accused of sexual misconduct by men in the United States. Police in the U.S. and in Britain are investigating several claims.

Spacey

After an investigation, the Old Vic said it had received 20 complaints of inappropriate behavior by Spacey, who led the theater between 2004 and 2015. It said most of the alleged victims had been staff members, and acknowledged that a "cult of personality" around the Hollywood star had made it difficult for them to come forward.

In response, the Old Vic trained staff members to act as "confidential sounding boards" to staff members experiencing abuse and unsure about what to do.

Old Vic executive producer Kate Varah said the guardians can provide a "sanity-check conversation" for employees who feel they are being bullied or abused. She said the goal is to bridge the gap "between a water cooler conversation with a mate where you can say 'This happened and it doesn't feel right' and then formalizing that" by going to management or a union.

The guardians get legal training to give "neutral support," with the employee deciding what action to take. Guardians pass information to management, but only once it has been anonymized.

Varah said 20 organizations have signed up to a Guardians Network, including the British Film Institute, the English National Opera, the Society of London Theatre and the National Theatre of Scotland. A further 30 groups in the cultural sector and beyond are considering joining.

Member organizations receive legal training and get the chance to get together and share information and lessons.

Thousands in Central Park panic after barrier collapse

NEW YORK (AP)—The collapse of a police barrier at a politically charged New York celebrity music show in Central Park sent thousands of spectators fleeing in panic, fearing the noise might have been gunshots.

About 60,000 people had filled the park's Great Lawn for Saturday's eight-hour Global Citizen Festival. They listened to big-name personalities from Democratic New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Republican Sen. Jeff Flake to Janet Jackson and John Legend who all urged spectators to get involved in the nation's troubled politics.

Suddenly, just before 8 p.m., the police barrier that was meant to keep the crowd in check toppled over, releasing a clanging sound that terrified many spectators.

Authorities quickly assured the crowd they were safe, and that no shots had been fired. And Coldplay leader Chris Martin told spectators that "nobody is trying to hurt anyone," eliciting cheers from the audience. "There's no need to run fast. There's no need to push people out of the way."

The intense reaction underlined the burning social justice issues that dominated the event, which had started on a warm, sunny afternoon, with long lines forming for access. Also scheduled were Cardi B, The Weeknd and other pop stars.

Some speakers asked the audience to call their Congress members to react to this week's Senate hearings for Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh.

"We want equal justice and a full investigation for the Supreme Court nominee, not investigations of limited time, not investigations of limited scope," Cuomo said. "And it means before you put a person on the Supreme Court to administer justice, we want to make sure justice is done."

In a video clip, former first lady Michelle Obama urged people to register to vote in the Nov. 6 midterm elections.

Speaking outside the show, Sen. Christopher Coons, a Delaware Democrat, called Flake "the real hero" after Friday's testimony that led the Arizona Republican to demand an FBI investigation into alleged sexual abuse accusations against Kavanaugh.

Haddish and Hart lead 'Night School' to No. 1 with $28M

This image released by Universal Pictures shows Kevin Hart, from left, Tiffany Haddish and Taran Killam in a scene from the film, "Night School." AP

NEW YORK (AP)—For the first time in more than two years, a straight-up comedy is No. 1 at the box office. Kevin Hart and Tiffany Haddish's "Night School" debuted with $28 million in ticket sales, according to estimates Sunday.

The race for the weekend top spot was, in the end, a laugher. Warner Bros.' animated release "Smallfoot," which cost about $80 million to make, trailed in second with $23 million.

Not since Melissa McCarthy's "The Boss" topped the box office in April 2016 has a comedy that didn't mix other genre elements been No. 1. The romantic comedy "Crazy Rich Asians" was a huge success, leading the box office for four straight weeks, and Tyler Perry's two horror-comedies—"Boo! A Madea Halloween" and its sequel—both opened at the top.

But big-screen comedy has been in a tailspin for years. It took two of comedy's biggest names teaming up to push Universal's "Night School" to the year's best comedy opening.

"We've been very consistent in this genre," said Jim Orr, distribution chief for Universal. "When you get in business with people like Kevin Hart and Tiffany Haddish who are just on fire, and then really extraordinary filmmakers like (producer) Will Packer, that's how you get good results."

More than most studios, Universal has stuck by comedy. This year, it also released the prom-night farce "Blockers" ($60.1 million worldwide on a $21 million budget) and the comic musical "Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again" ($390.1 million worldwide on a $75 million budget).

It's the second straight No. 1 for Universal, which last week led ticket sales with the Amblin Entertainment-produced fantasy "The House With a Clock in Its Walls." It earned $12.5 million in its second weekend.

"We have a very diverse approach to our slate," Orr said. "We're not just superhero movies or anything else like that. When you see these kinds of results, you know that that's the right thing to do, that it pays off."

Frights not laughs have become the hotter attraction at the movies, but for one weekend at least, horror and comedy switched roles. Lionsgate's Halloween-themed "Hell Fest" debuted meekly with $5.1 million.

"Over the last few years, comedy has just taken a real roller coaster ride with audiences either not locking into the premise or not vibing with the stars," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst or comScore. "The quality, or at least the perceived quality of many of the movies, especially the R-rated comedies, has been so bad that time after time people got disenchanted by the genre."

MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION
†Dilwei Agnes Skilang Sablan
Me Sulang - Si Yu'us Maase - Thank You
To our friends, relatives and all those who comforted us with condolences, presence and prayers in our time of sorrow… No words can express our heartfelt appreciation for your kindness and support as we prayed and laid our beloved mother, grandmother, and great grandmother to rest in her new life with her Creator.
We wish you all God's blessings, good health, and happiness always.
From our hearts and homes to you and yours,
Mike & Violy, Stephen, Zack and Adam
Virg & Andy, Matthew and Kaela
Cathy, K.Cyji & Jj, Charles Pablo and Jose
Ninos & Monica and children
Willy, Eric & Pamela and children
Ephraim & Joyce and children
Children of †Henry
Children of †Gerald Victor
Children of †Tao

Nobel Prizes still struggle with wide gender disparity

STAVANGER, Norway (AP)—Nobel Prizes are the most prestigious awards on the planet but the aura of this year's announcements has been dulled by questions over why so few women have entered the pantheon, particularly in the sciences.

The march of Nobel announcements begins Monday with the physiology/medicine prize.

Since the first prizes were awarded in 1901, 892 individuals have received one, but just 48 of them have been women. Thirty of those women won either the literature or peace prize, highlighting the wide gender gap in the laureates for physics, chemistry and physiology/medicine. In addition, only one woman has won for the economics prize, which is not technically a Nobel but is associated with the prizes.

Some of the disparity likely can be attributed to underlying structural reasons, such as the low representation of women in high-level science. The American Institute of Physics, for example, says in 2014, only 10 percent of full physics professorships were held by women.

But critics suggest that gender bias pervades the process of nominations, which come largely from tenured professors.

"The problem is the whole nomination process, you have these tenured professors who feel like they are untouchable. They can get away with everything from sexual harassment to micro-aggressions like assuming the woman in the room will take the notes, or be leaving soon to have babies," said Anne-Marie Imafidon, the head of Stemettes, a British group that encourages girls and young women to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

"It's little wonder that these people aren't putting women forward for nominations. We need to be better at telling the stories of the women in science who are doing good things and actually getting recognition," she said.

Powerful men taking credit for the ideas and elbow grease of their female colleagues was turned on its head in 1903 when Pierre Curie made it clear he would not accept the physics prize unless his wife and fellow researcher Marie Curie was jointly honored. She was the first female winner of any Nobel prize, but only one other woman has won the physics prize since then.

More than 70 years later, Jocelyn Bell, a post-graduate student at Cambridge, was overlooked for the physics prize despite her crucial contribution to the discovery of pulsars. Her supervisor, Antony Hewish, took all of the Nobel credit.

In this file photo dated Friday, April 17, 2015, a national library employee shows the gold Nobel Prize medal awarded to the late novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez, in Bogota, Colombia. AP

Brian Keating, a physics professor at the University of California San Diego and author of the book "Losing the Nobel Prize: A Story of Cosmology, Ambition, and the Perils of Science's Highest Honor," says the Nobel Foundation should lift its restrictions on re-awarding for a breakthrough if an individual has been overlooked. He also says posthumous awards also should be considered and there should be no restriction on the number of individuals who can share a prize. Today the limit is three people for one prize.

"These measures would go a long way to addressing the injustice that so few of the brilliant women who have contributed so much to science through the years have been overlooked," he said.

Keating fears that simply accepting the disparity as structural will seriously harm the prestige of all the Nobel prizes.

"I think with the Hollywood #MeToo movement, it has already happened in the film prizes. It has happened with the literature prize. There is no fundamental law of nature that the Nobel science prizes will continue to be seen as the highest accolade," he said.

This year's absence of a Nobel Literature prize , which has been won by 14 women, puts an even sharper focus on the gender gap in science prizes.

The Swedish Academy, which awards the literature prize, said it would not pick a winner this year after sex abuse allegations and financial crimes scandals rocked the secretive panel, sharply dividing its 18 members, who are appointed for life. Seven members quit or distanced themselves from academy. Its permanent secretary, Anders Olsson, said the academy wanted "to commit time to recovering public confidence."

The academy plans to award both the 2018 prize and the 2019 prize next year—but even that is not guaranteed. The head of the Nobel Foundation, Lars Heikensten, has warned that if the Swedish Academy does not resolve its tarnished image another group could be chosen to select the literature prize each year.

Stung by criticism about the diversity gap between former prize winners, the Nobel Foundation has asked that the science awarding panels for 2019 ask nominators to consider their own biases in the thousands of letters they send to solicit Nobel nominations.

Japanese actor Koji Yakusho says his is a solitary craft

TOKYO (AP)—His film roles range from police officer to serial killer, dashing characters to self-destructive losers, a samurai warrior to an ordinary "salaryman," as Japanese office workers are called. But through all his work in Japan and Hollywood, Koji Yakusho has found what he must do as an actor remains surprisingly the same.

"It's lonely," he said recently. "You're before a camera, and you have to do something, and you can't make mistakes.

"You can't ever totally become a character, but you must get as close to that person as possible, and that moment you feel you are him—you make sure you don't lose that moment."

Yakusho, who is being honored at the Tokyo International Film Festival next month, has worked with the legends of Japanese film and starred in Shohei Imamura's "The Eel," which won the 1997 Palme d'Or at Cannes. He also appeared in "Babel" and "Memoirs of a Geisha."

"Koji Yakusho is Japan's leading international actor, demonstrating unparalleled versatility in wide-ranging roles across every genre," said the festival's program adviser Kohei Ando on why Yakusho was being honored at the festival.

"He has indelibly played dozens of characters, and imbued them with humanism."

Ando pointed as an example to one of Yakusho's well-known roles, as a salaryman who becomes obsessed with ballroom dancing in "Shall We Dance?" directed by Masayuki Suo. It became a 2004 Hollywood remake, starring Richard Gere.

This image provided by 1996 Kadokawa Corporation NHN shows Koji Yakusyo, second right, in a scene from "Shall We Dance?" AP

He learned to dance for his role in the heart-warming film.

In a recent interview with The Associated Press at Toho Studios in Tokyo, Yakusho said with a laugh it's true his professional surname was picked years ago by his mentor, Tatsuya Nakadai. He was working at a "yakusho," or local government office, when he joined a theater group Nakadai ran.

Nakadai had hoped the civil servant-turned-actor would go on to play many roles. "Yaku" means role; the first character in Koji, his real name, has the meaning for "wide."

Yakusho, 62, is being honored at this year's Tokyo International Film Festival, which opens Oct. 25 and runs through Nov. 3.

"We are all aware of the perspective of extremely regular people. That's something we are always thinking about and trying to observe," said Yakusho, noting he is one movie star with the regular-person experience of catching a rush-hour commuter train.

The hardest roles to play are the noble, honorable characters, he said, like the samurai in his next movie, whose tentative English title is "Touge: The Last Samurai," set for release in 2020.

Ukraine demands access to filmmaker imprisoned in Russia

MOSCOW (AP)—Ukraine's Foreign Ministry is demanding that Russia allow consular access to an imprisoned Ukrainian filmmaker who has been on a hunger strike since mid-May.

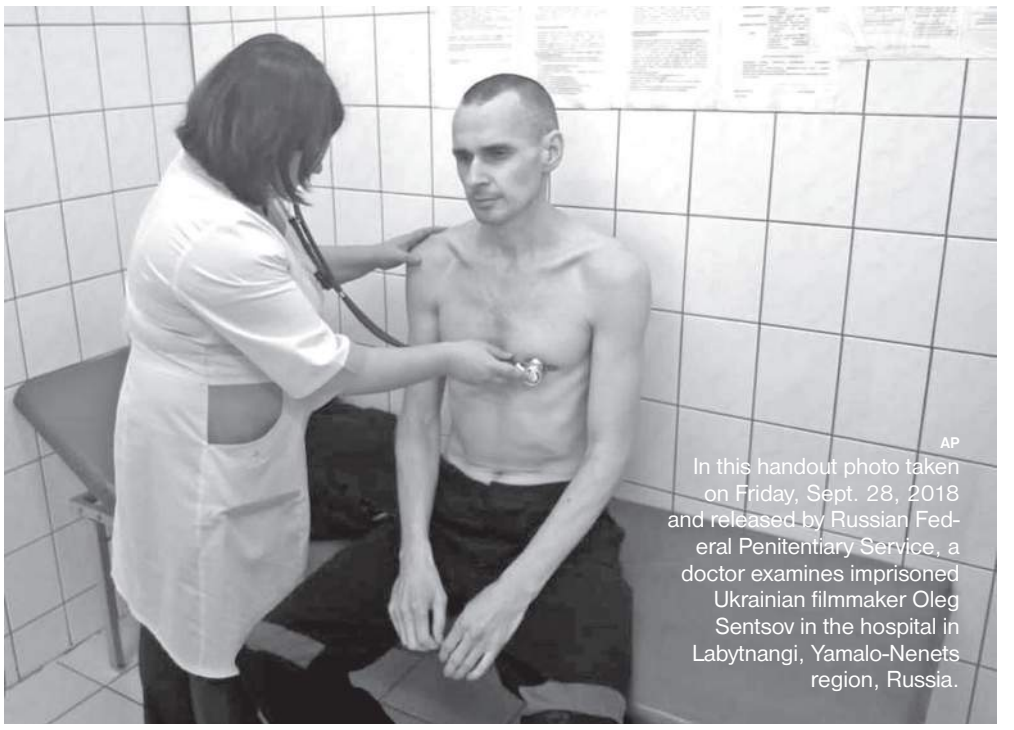
Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mariana Betsa made the demand Saturday on Twitter. Russia's penitentiary service said Friday that an unspecified "correction" in Oleg Sentsov's treatment had been ordered; it published a photo of him being examined with a stethoscope.

Betsa also called for allowing Ukrainian doctors to visit Sentsov.

The filmmaker is an opponent of Russia's 2014 annexation of Crimea. He was sentenced to 20 years in prison in 2015 for conspiracy to conduct terror attacks.

Sentsov denies guilt and has refused to seek a pardon from President Vladimir Putin.

His lawyer said this month that Sentsov's health was irreversibly damaged. Prison officials say he is receiving a nutritional formula.



AP

In this handout photo taken on Friday, Sept. 28, 2018 and released by Russian Federal Penitentiary Service, a doctor examines imprisoned Ukrainian filmmaker Oleg Sentsov in the hospital in Labytnangi, Yamalo-Nenets region, Russia.

'Between Two Waters' wins top film prize at San Sebastian

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—Director Isaki Lacuesta's film "Between Two Waters" has won the top prize at the San Sebastian International Film Festival, the biggest film festival for Spanish-language films.

It was the second Golden Shell award for best film to go to Lacuesta, after the Catalan filmmaker also triumphed at San Sebastian with his 2011 movie "The Double Steps" ("Los pasos dobles").

A social drama set in present-day southern Spain, "Between Two Waters" ("Entre dos aguas") is a sequel to Lacuesta's 2006 film "The Legend of Time" ("La leyenda del tiempo"). It explores the lives of two brothers from a family of Gypsies, also known as Roma.

The Argentine film "Red" ("Rojo") was the festival's other big winner Saturday night, with awards for best director going to Benjamin Naishtat, best actor to Dario Grandinetti and best cinematography to Pedro Sotero.

Norwegian actress Pia Tjelta won the award for best actress for her role in "Blind Spot" by director Tuva Novotny.

Trump tweets praise for Kanye West on Saturday Night Live

NEW YORK (AP)—President Donald Trump has panned Saturday Night Live's season premiere but tweeted praise for Kanye West, who closed the show with a pro-Trump message.

Saturday's show opened with Matt Damon playing Brett Kavanaugh in a parody of Thursday's testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee on sexual assault claims.

As the show ended, West took the stage wearing a "Make America Great Again" hat and made an unscripted pro-Trump speech after the credits rolled.

Videos of the speech circulated on social media.

Trump tweeted Sunday that he didn't watch the show—it's "no longer funny" and "is just a political ad for the Dems."

He added: "Word is that Kanye West, who put on a MAGA hat after the show (despite being told 'no'), was great. He's leading the charge!"

Romania: Broadcast of same-sex marriage debate interrupted

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP)—Romania's national broadcaster apologized Saturday after a studio camera operator interrupted a live TV debate on a referendum seeking to ban same-sex marriage.

TVR1 said sorry to viewers after a broadcast was interrupted when a technical staff member used "inappropriate language," during a Friday evening discussion between a spokesman supporting the referendum and a gay rights activist.

There is heated debate in Romania before the Oct. 6-7 referendum, which is seeking to limit the constitutional definition of family to heterosexual, married couples. The constitution currently says marriage is a union of spouses. Romania doesn't recognize same-sex marriage or grant legal protection to same-sex couples.

Romanian Orthodox Church Patriarch Daniel called on voters to approve the amendment. He called the referendum "a patriotic.... and profound democratic act" that was designed to preserve marriage as a union of a man and a woman.

The patriarch also criticized what he alleged were efforts to get Romanians to boycott the vote, which he said was "an unjust denigration of the referendum." The church does not have authority to sanction marriages legally, but has influence in the socially conservative nation.

In an important development, Romania's Constitutional Court ruled Thursday that same-sex couples should have the same family and legal rights as opposite-sex couples.

The referendum needs a 30-percent turnout to be valid.

AP

In this Saturday, June 9, 2018 file photo, two girls kiss holding a rainbow flag during the gay pride parade in Bucharest, Romania.

'Housewives of Potomac' star suspended after groping charge

POTOMAC, Md. (AP)—Bravo has suspended "The Real Housewives of Potomac" star Michael Darby after he was charged with groping a cameraman.

The cameraman said in charging documents that the show was filming in Potomac, Maryland, on Sept. 1 when Darby "grabbed and groped" his backside, WRC-TV in Washington reported . Darby is charged with second-degree assault and fourth-degree sexual contact.

In the documents, the cameraman said that "as I turned around (Darby) smiled and gave me a flirtatious look." He told Darby to stop and then told his supervisor. The cameraman pressed charges three days later.

The 59-year-old Darby is married to Ashley Darby. Both are cast members on the Bravo show that's filmed in the Washington area.

"Bravo and Truly Original, the production company for 'The Real Housewives of Potomac,' have suspended filming with Michael Darby," the company said in a statement late Saturday.

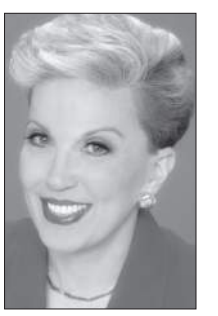
Truly Original said it had launched an investigation of the incident, adding: "The review is ongoing and we are not able to comment further."

Guilty dad spends extra time with once-estranged daughter

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: My older sister, "Lily," is in a biracial marriage and has a son. Our dad never approved. He gave her an ultimatum when she first met "Rodney": Choose between him or our family. She chose Rodney.

After 30 years of Dad not speaking to her and influencing us siblings to feel the same way, our mother died and Dad rekindled his relationship with Lily. He's 82 now, and he puts her and her family first. He spends a lot of money on them and spends a lot of time with her and her son.

The rest of us feel so much resentment. I realize he's making up for lost time and feels guilty. But it's sickening when we remember how he pushed us to feel the way he did back then and now expects us to do an emotional 180. We are OK with being with our sister and her family. It's Dad we're having the problem with. How do we move on?

UPSET IN THE EAST

DEAR UPSET: I wish you had mentioned what caused your father's change of heart because it would have been a valuable lesson for a lot of readers. He did a disservice to ALL of you by teaching hate rather than love and acceptance. Now you have decades of lost time to make up for.

Anger, resentment and bigotry serve no one well. Your father recognizes the mistake he made by shunning his daughter and her family, and he's trying to make up for it. As I write this, I'm reminded of a line from the "Peace Prayer of St. Francis": "Where there is hatred, let me sow love." Good for your father! The way for you to move on would be to recognize it's time to forgive him for the damage he caused your family because, if you don't, you and your siblings will perpetuate it.

DEAR ABBY: I have worked for my husband, "Ben," in a small firm for 20 years, but members of my family still think I don't have a "real" job. I did it so I'd have flexibility in taking care of our children, participating in PTA and other school activities, and be involved in the community. This benefits us not only as a family but also Ben's business.

I work a 40-plus-hour week, just not necessarily 9 to 5. So why does my family think they can call me at work, especially on my cell, for non-work-related issues? They wouldn't call their friends or children at work, so why, despite my asking them REPEATEDLY not to, do they still call, or worse, drop in? How can I make them stop bothering me?

AT WORK

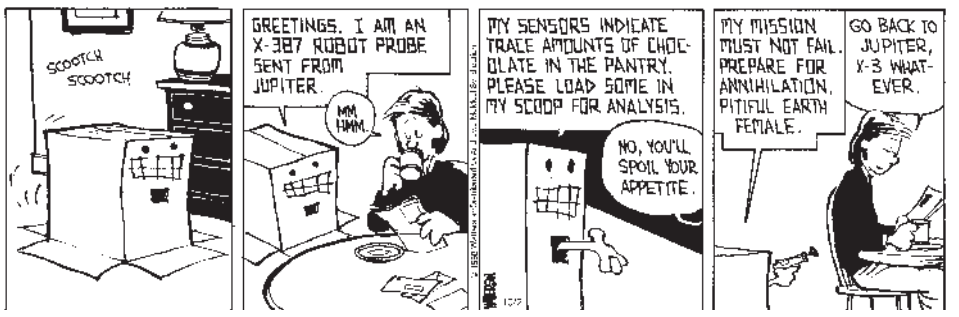
DEAR AT WORK: Because you have asked your relatives not to call between certain hours, screen your calls before answering your phone. When they ask why you didn't pick up, repeat the message that you were working and please not to call you at that time. If they drop in, quit being so available. Repeat that they have come at a time that's inconvenient, and give them a time when you can socialize.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

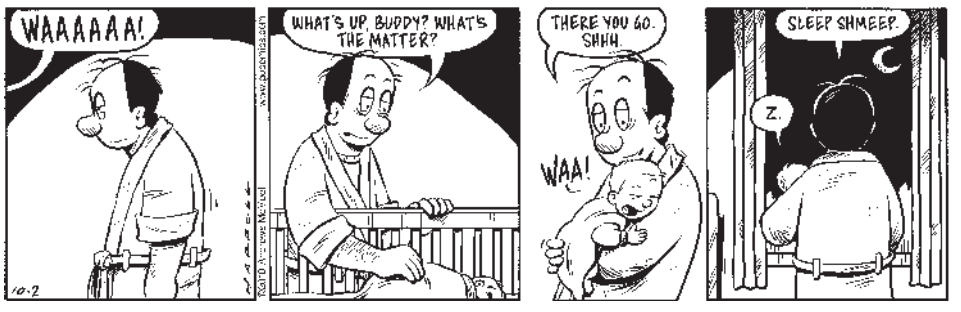

SCOOTCH SCOOTCH
GREETINGS. I AM AN X-387 ROBOT PROBE SENT FROM JUPITER.
MM HMM.
MY SENSORS INDICATE TRACE AMOUNTS OF CHOCOLATE IN THE PANTRY. PLEASE LOAD SOME IN MY SCOOP FOR ANALYSIS.
NO, YOU'LL SPOIL YOUR APPETITE.
MY MISSION MUST NOT FAIL. PREPARE FOR ANNIHILATION, PITIFUL EARTH FEMALE.
GO BACK TO JUPITER, X-3 WHATEVER.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

THIS IS MAKING THE GAME TAKE WAY TOO LONG!
LOOK-NOW EZEKIEL ELLIOTT AND CLORTS SACHMAN JUST RAN INTO THE GOAL POST.
WHAT A MESS.
YEAH, THEY NEVER SHOULD HAVE STARTED 'END ZONE DANCING WITH THE STARS'?

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

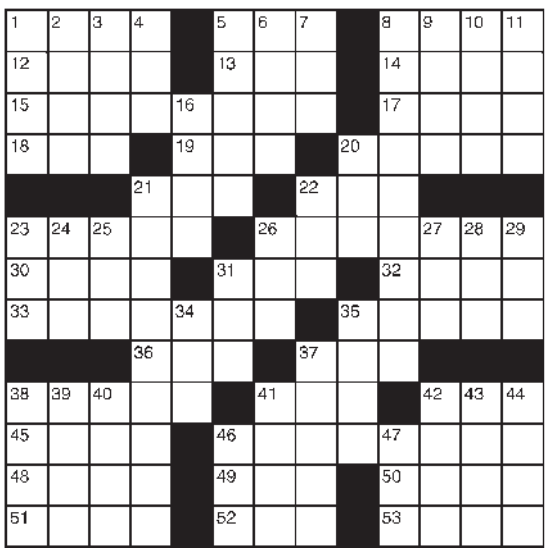
ACROSS
1 Gusto
5 School support org.
8 Rip
12 Jazzy Fitzgerald
13 Director Howard
14 Killer whale
15 Famed Patriots quarterback
17 Shopping center
18 Reply (Abbr.)
19 Comic Philips
20 Caravan stops
21 Big-screen buys
22 Somewhat (Suff.)
23 Long rides?
26 Town centers
30 Utah city
31 Uno + uno
32 Stir-fry pans
33 Distorted, as a message
35 Heavens above
36 Plant seeds
37 Existed
38 Green sauce
41 Peruke
42 — loss
45 Hodgepodge
46 Annie's song
48 Panache
49 "Alley —"
50 Rude dude
51 Viral phenomenon
52 Layer
53 Without acting

DOWN
1 Epsilon follower
2 Carolina college
3 Charitable gift
4 Science room
5 Baby carriages
6 Commotion
7 Whatever
8 Hatchet-like weapons
9 Historic times
10 Farm unit
11 "Phooey!"
16 Guns the engine
20 Buckeyes' sch.
21 O.K. Corral site
22 Mensa measures
23 Cabin component
24 Nest egg acronym
25 Sea, to Henri
26 Lay down the lawn
27 Marseilles monarch
28 Scratch (out)
29 Snake's warning
31 Morning moisture
34 Privy
35 Palm starch
37 Like a milquetoast
38 Frost lines
39 Vogue rival
40 Thailand, once
41 Sweater material
42 Yankee nickname
43 Implement
44 Wrong
46 Surpass
47 Hitter's stat

Solution time: 22 mins.

C	P	A			A	D	D		Q	D	F	S
F	O	L	E		T	I	E		H	U	L	A
A	S	E	A		M	O	M		M	E	L	D
N	E	X	J	S		R	U	D	Y			
			D	I	M		R	E	G	G	I	E
S	I	B	E	R	I	A		M	O	O	L	A
E	L	E	C		A	R	T		C	B	I	T
E	S	T	O	P		F	O	O	D	I	E	S
M	A	H	L	E	R		C	W	N			
			O	N	J	S		L	E	A	F	Y
M	I	N	G		N	P	R		S	L	O	E
I	C	O	N		G	O	C		S	M	E	W
G	E	N	E		S	I	D			A	S	S

Yesterday's answer 10-2



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kelly Ripa, 48; Sting, 67; Annie Leibovitz, 69; Donna Karan, 70.

Happy Birthday: Work through your emotions this year. If you let things fester, they will deter you from reaching your potential. Don't sweat the little things; deal with them and keep moving forward. It will show strength of character and the willingness to become the spokesperson when your beliefs are challenged. Stand up and be counted. Actions speak louder than words. Your numbers are 3, 10, 18, 21, 26, 32, 45.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* An emotional situation will hinder your ability to be productive if you don't face the challenges you encounter head-on. Heated discussions may not be fun, but they will get matters out into the open and help you find out where you stand. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* A last-minute change of plans will be beneficial, so don't make a fuss over nothing. Look on the bright side, and turn a negative into a positive. Your ability to adapt and move on will lead to an unexpected opportunity. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Be helpful. Offer unique suggestions, but don't take on the physical stress of doing all the work. There is a fine line between taking over and being taken advantage of. Know and set limitations and boundaries that are reasonable. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Emotions will surface and must be directed properly if you want to avoid upset. Offer love, affection, understanding and patience instead of criticism and complaints and you'll get far more accomplished. Personal improvements can and should be made. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Start a dialogue with someone you feel can help you improve your position or lifestyle. Keep it simple, honest and listen to the suggestions made. The information you receive will be a game changer when it comes to making your next move. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* You can improve your relationship with others if you are open about the way you feel, what you want and what your intentions are. Once you establish ground rules, you will be able to move forward rapidly. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Don't wait until someone is upset with you. Take care of your responsibilities sooner rather than later. Making changes at home that will improve your comfort or lower your overhead will also help change the dynamics of an important relationship. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Bend a little and you will get the cooperation you need to get things done. Anger isn't the way to win favors or friendships. Use your ingenuity and you'll come up with innovative ideas that others will respond to favorably. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Focus on what you can do, not what you cannot. Strive to reach your deadlines and to be innovative in the way you handle professional challenges. Don't fall for a financial scheme that is risky or has emotional implications attached. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* You'll come up against opposition if you are too open about your plans. Perfect what you have in mind, and do not present until you are sure you have covered every angle that may be questioned. Change begins within. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Look over your personal finances and expenses. Make changes that will help you manage your money more efficiently. Overspending or indulging in pastimes that are expensive and unhealthy should be banned. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Creative accounting will help you get back on track. A change in the way you handle your money, the past and those who have cost you or not been honest will set the stage for a brighter and more prosperous future. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are energetic, quick-witted and classy. You are unbiased and popular.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		5	1	6				
			9		5	4		
	3							8
	7			4			3	9
1								2
8	2			7			1	
9							8	
		4	5		3			
				9	7	2		

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/02

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

1	3	5	4	9	2	8	7	6
6	2	7	8	1	3	5	9	4
9	8	4	5	6	7	3	2	1
4	9	1	3	2	8	6	5	7
5	6	3	9	7	1	4	8	2
2	7	8	6	4	5	1	3	9
3	1	6	2	5	9	7	4	8
7	5	2	1	8	4	9	6	3
8	4	9	7	3	6	2	1	5

Difficulty Level ★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

TURNING 50! Solution: 6 letters

E	F	C	E	R	R	E	S	I	W	C	A	N	D	Y
S	V	H	A	K	U	L	R	E	F	L	E	C	T	P
T	R	E	N	N	A	B	T	A	G	P	I	R	T	P
S	Y	E	N	O	O	C	M	I	A	G	I	N	G	A
E	W	R	G	T	I	I	F	R	I	B	B	O	N	H
U	O	H	L	U	L	T	T	B	C	A	N	D	L	E
G	L	O	E	Y	E	Y	A	A	I	A	P	S	E	A
N	B	L	V	T	P	S	Y	T	R	G	R	R	N	L
I	A	I	A	S	T	A	H	A	I	B	B	D	O	T
R	L	D	R	E	M	A	M	A	D	V	E	A	T	H
E	L	A	T	A	N	I	P	P	R	H	N	L	S	Y
H	O	Y	Z	K	P	R	I	M	E	E	T	I	E	H
T	O	I	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	R	W	R	L	C
A	N	U	N	I	T	E	L	Y	T	S	E	F	I	L
G	L	N	O	I	T	A	N	I	T	S	E	D	M	B

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Aging, Amazing, Balloon, Banner, Big Bash, Birthday, Blow, Cake, Candle, Candy, Card, Celebration, Cheer, Date, Destination, Event, Family, Friends, Gathering, Gift, Goals, Guests, Happy, Hats, Healthy, Holiday, Invitation, Lifestyle, Milestone, Pampered, Party, Piñata, Prime, Reflect, Ribbon, Share, Spa, Thankful, Travel, Trip, Unite, Wiser, Wish, Year

Yesterday's Answer: Coffee

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 39 through 54, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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Bridge Investment Group, LLC

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Location: Tinian

Title: Senior Construction Project Manager

Qualifications:
- Proficient in English and Chinese.
- Bachelor's degree in Architecture, Engineering or related fields.
- 8-10 years of experience in project management or related fields.

Job Description:
Performs general oversight of many duties and tasks that must be accomplished in the construction, renovation, or restructuring of a property. They must be organized and able to delegate tasks and responsibilities to subordinate project managers, contractors, and laborers.

Title: Cost Engineer

Qualifications:
- Proficient in English and Chinese.
- Bachelor's degree in Engineering or related fields.
- 5-10 years of experience in large scale real estate development projects.

Job Description:
Estimate and analyze requirements and specifications of a project to determine associated costs.

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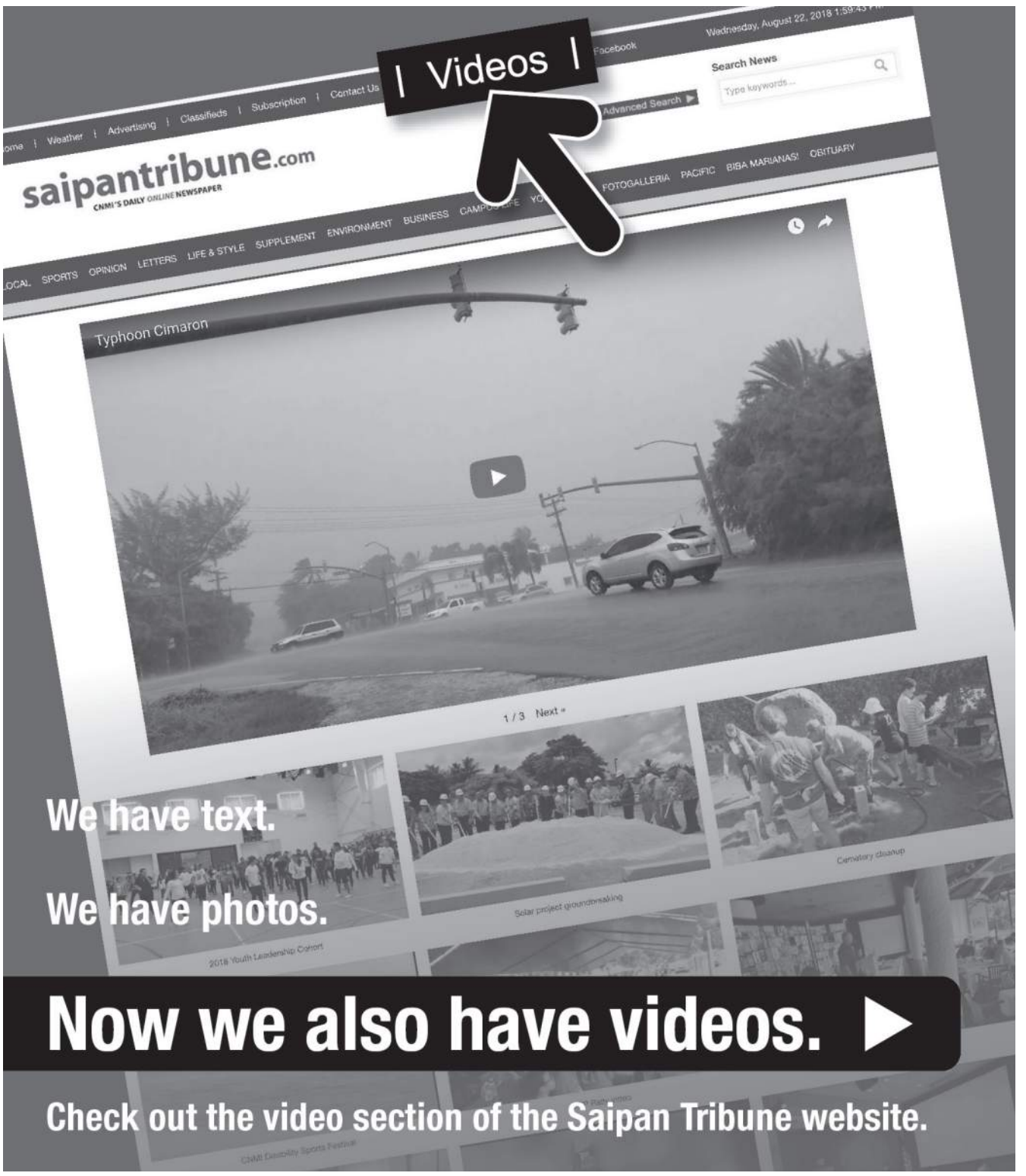

WHATZIT Solution: Return to sender

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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Find today's solution in classified section

Europe finishes off US to regain Ryder Cup

AP

Europe team captain Thomas Bjorn kisses the cup as he celebrates with his players after the European team won the 2018 Ryder Cup golf tournament at Le Golf National in Saint Quentin-en-Yvelines, outside Paris, France, Sunday, Sept. 30, 2018.

SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES, France (AP)—Europe waited two long years for that one moment when the Ryder Cup was back in its hands.

Exactly when it happened Sunday was unclear, making it all the better.

At roughly the same time, in two singles matches on two greens at Le Golf National separated by 150 yards of water, Francesco Molinari and Sergio Garcia each made par to secure at least a half-point, either one giving Europe the 14½ points it needed to regain the Ryder Cup from the Americans.

As the celebration was just getting started, Molinari capped off the first 5-0 week at the Ryder Cup for a European.

Three of those points came at the expense of Tiger Woods, who left France without contributing a point. Molinari won his singles match against Phil Mickelson, officially putting the winning point on the board for Europe and putting Mickelson in the record book for the most losses in Ryder Cup history.

Then, Garcia won his match to set the record for the most career points in Ryder Cup history.

It was like that all week.

Europe produced stars old and new with a team that was as strong as ever.

"We got it right this week," European captain Thomas Bjorn said. "We never, ever looked toward their team about what they were about. We were about us as a team and what we do. ... Everything that this Ryder Cup was is what I think the Ryder Cup should be about for a European team."

Mostly, it's about winning.

The final shot came from Alex Noren, who after conceding a short birdie putt to Bryson DeChambeau on the 18th hole, made a 40-foot birdie putt to win the match.

That made it 17½-10½, the biggest Ryder Cup rout in 12 years.

Two years after the Americans thought they had their Ryder Cup problems figured out, Europe reminded them Sunday which team practically has owned that shiny gold trophy for the last quarter-century.

Europe now has won nine of the last 12. The Americans remain winless away from home since 1993.

And there wasn't much U.S. captain Jim Furyk could do about it.

"They played some great golf this week, and I take my cap off," Furyk said. "Thomas was a better captain and their team outplayed us. And there's nothing else more you can say. They deserved to win."

Molinari was just as good on his own as he was with Tommy Fleetwood, and the best year of his golfing life somehow got better. Just over two months ago, he was posing with that silver claret jug at the British Open as Italy's first major champion. This felt just as sweet because it was a trophy he shared with a team.

"This team has been incredible from the start," Molinari said. "We were determined to do the job. Nothing was going to stop us. And you saw it on the course."

It was the most lopsided victory since consecutive 18½-9½ victories by Europe more than a decade ago when the Americans looked utterly lost. They formed a Ryder Cup Task Force after the 2014 loss. The idea was to build continuity and momentum, and it seemed to work when the Americans won at Hazeltine in 2016.

Now, maybe it's back to the drawing board.

"Let's be honest—the European side played some exquisite golf," Mickelson said.

The same couldn't be said for Mickelson or Woods, two giants of their generation, both with losing records in the Ryder Cup.

Mickelson didn't even play on Saturday and lost his matches on Friday and Sunday. He started the week by setting a record with his 12th appearance in the Ryder Cup, and it ended with 22 losses, a record by either side. At 48, he might not get another chance.

"I did not play well this year," Mickelson said. "This could very well, realistically, be my last one."

Woods was 0-4, the first time in eight Ryder Cups that he failed to contribute a single point. This was one week after he capped a personal comeback following four back surgeries by winning the Tour Championship, the 80th of his PGA Tour career and first in more than five years.

But he looked like he lacked energy on the course and certainly in his speech over the last two days.

"It's disappointing because I went 0-4, and that's four points to the European team," he said. "And I'm one of the contributing factors to why we lost the cup, and it's not a lot of fun. It's frustrating because I thought we were all playing pretty well, and I just didn't perform at the level that I had been playing, and just got behind early in the matches and never got back."

But this was more about the Europeans as a team, and they were tougher than ever on a course they know well.

Trailing 10-6 going into the final day of singles, the Americans needed to put red points on the board early to build momentum. It never happened. Justin Thomas won the leadoff match over Rory McIlroy but not until the 18th hole.

Webb Simpson and Tony Finau, the lone bright spot among the wild-card picks for Furyk, won easily. Behind them, Woods was hanging tough against Jon Rahm and Dustin Johnson started to pull ahead of Ian Poulter.

"There's always a moment where it looks like a spark of light," Furyk said. "When it was there for us, Europe played really well."

It wasn't there long.

Rahm won two straight holes with pars to seize control. Johnson hit into the water on the 13th during a four-hole slide that took him from 1 up to 2 down, a match Poulter wound up winning.

Thorbjorn Olesen, who had played only one match the previous two days, went 5 up at the turn over Jordan Spieth and won in 14 holes. Spieth is now 0-6 in singles matches in the Ryder Cup and Presidents Cup.

Garcia was in tears.

He played so poorly this year that he failed to qualify for the PGA Tour's postseason. Bjorn picked him anyway, saying he was the heart and soul of the European team, and Garcia responded by going 3-1. His victory over Rickie Fowler gave him 25½ points in a Ryder Cup career that began in 1999.

"I think that a lot of people thought that the Ryder Cup was over before it was played," Garcia said. "And I guess, unfortunately, they picked the wrong team."

Tiger accepts blame for loss

SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES, France—Tiger Woods went from the high point of his year to the low point in one week.

After his 2 and 1 loss to Jon Rahm in the Sunday singles, Woods was briefly tied with Phil Mickelson for most Ryder Cup losses in U.S. history at 21 (Mickelson's loss within the hour moved him back to first with 22). It was just his second loss on a Sunday at the biennial event, dropping his record to 4-2-2 in singles and 14-21-3 overall.

Riding into Paris on the high of winning the Tour Championship last week, his first win on the PGA Tour in five years, he'll head back to the States without having scored a point for Team USA.

"Well, it's disappointing because I went 0-4, and that's four points to the European team. And I'm one of the contributing factors to why we lost the Cup, and it's not a lot of fun," Woods said after his match.

"It's frustrating because we came here, I thought we were all playing pretty well, and I just didn't perform at the level that I had been playing, and just got behind early in the matches and never got back."

During the team news conference, Woods was asked what kind of toll the busy end of the season had on him, and he noted that he wasn't exactly prepared for the grind of the schedule.

"For me, it's been a lot of golf for a short period of time," said Woods, who played seven events in nine weeks before travelling to Paris for the Ryder Cup.

"I'll have a better understanding of what my training needs to be for next year so that I certainly can endure the entire season because this year was very much up in the air of how much I would play or if I would play at all."

Woods carded the day's first eagle on the par-5 ninth hole, along with two birdies, 10 pars and four bogeys in 17 holes. Not one of Woods' matches made it the full 18 holes.

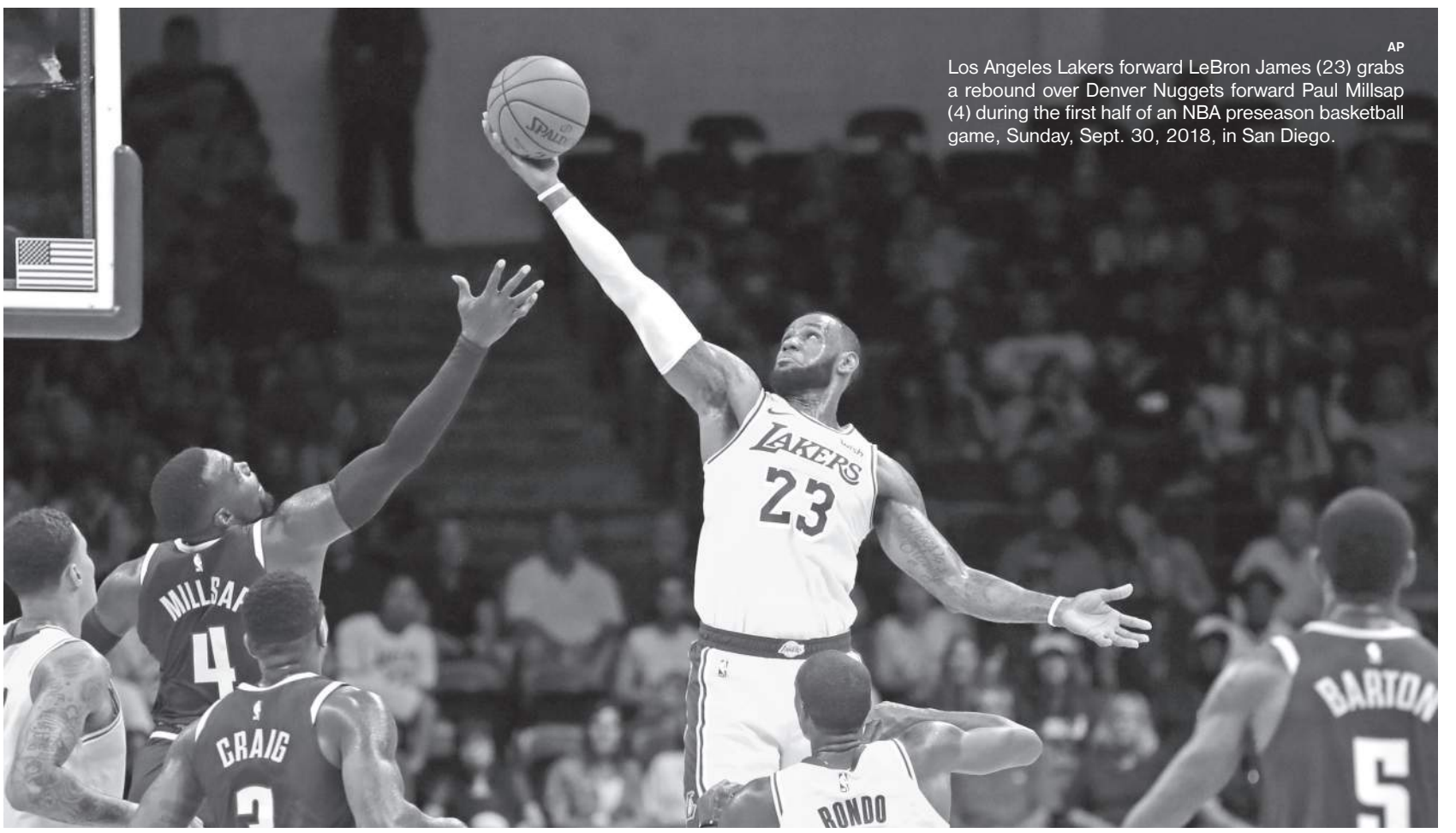
The eagle appeared to be a turning point for Woods. It cut Rahm's lead to just 1-up, and then the 14-time major champion squared the match two holes later.

But consecutive bogeys on Nos. 13 and 14 increased Rahm's lead to 2-up once again.

He had another chance to make a clutch putt on the par-3 16th but missed left. Rahm bailed him out, missing an even shorter putt that would've halved the hole but instead decreased his lead to just one again. The Spaniard rebounded with a birdie on No. 17 to seal the win.

Rahm scored Team Europe point 12.5, closing the door on the American comeback.

LeBron captivates crowd; DeRozan debuts as a Spur



AP

Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James (23) grabs a rebound over Denver Nuggets forward Paul Millsap (4) during the first half of an NBA preseason basketball game, Sunday, Sept. 30, 2018, in San Diego.

SAN DIEGO (AP)—LeBron James rubbed his hands in chalk powder at the scorer's table, yelled "Yes!" to ecstatic fans in the first few rows and the Los Angeles Lakers' new era was underway.

Playing in the same arena where Magic Johnson made his regular-season debut for Los Angeles 39 years ago, James captivated the crowd from the start of the Lakers' exhibition opener Sunday night, a 124-107 loss to the Denver Nuggets.

The opening tip came James' way and he tapped it to fellow newcomer Rajon Rondo, who threw an alley-oop pass to JaVale McGee for the game's first score.

James missed his first shot, a turnaround fadeaway, but then made a no-look bounce pass from about 27 feet out to Brandon Ingram for a dunk. A minute later, James hit a long 3-pointer.

He finished with nine points, three rebounds and four assists in just more than 15 minutes.

Lakers fans hope James' arrival will turn things around after the worst half-decade in the franchise's lengthy history.

He left the Cleveland Cavaliers for a four-year, $153.3 million free-agent deal with the Lakers.

He, Rondo and fellow veterans McGee, Lance Stephenson and Michael Beasley signed to team with the Lakers' talented young core.

James was the focus on and off the court Sunday night.

He was cheered from the minute he ran onto the court with his new teammates for warmups. He played the first eight minutes before being subbed out.

When he came back in midway through the second quarter, he was greeted by cheers.

As he stood near the scorer's table during a video review, a fan yelled: "LeBron, we love you!" and the superstar responded with a hang-loose sign.

Asked before the game what stands out about James, coach Luke Walton said, "His intelligence. He sees everything. He knows even before drills. He knows where he's going. His work ethic. He's out there pre-practice with the guys, post-practice with the guys. Taking care of his body in the weight room.

"He's the ultimate professional."

The Lakers' regular-season opener is Oct. 18 at Portland. Their home opener is two nights later against Houston.

This was another big night for an L.A. basketball team at San Diego's sports arena.

In 1975, John Wooden coached his final game here, leading UCLA to its 10th NCAA title in 12 seasons. In 1979, Johnson made his NBA debut when Los Angeles beat the then-San Diego Clippers in the season opener. After Kareem Abdul-Jabbar made a buzzer-beating sky hook, Johnson hugged the center like they'd just won the championship. Seven months later, they did win the NBA title.

Johnson is now the Lakers' president of basketball operations and James was the prized acquisition of an offseason roster revamp.

As a kid, Walton used to watch his father, Bill, play for the Clippers, although the Hall of Famer's years in his hometown were largely marred by injuries.

Meanwhile, a new era of San Antonio basketball has begun, with DeMar DeRozan in the lineup and some long-time legends elsewhere.

With an offseason of change behind them, the Spurs opened exhibition play Sunday with a 104-100 victory over the Miami Heat.

The five-game schedule began in San Antonio, where DeRozan started and scored seven points in 18 minutes of his first game since the Spurs acquired him from Toronto in the trade that sent Kawhi Leonard to the Raptors. With Leonard traded, Tony Parker signing in Charlotte and Manu Ginobili retiring, it was a far more eventful offseason than usual in San Antonio.

But it was a good start for the new pieces. Jakob Poeltl, who came with DeRozan from the Raptors, had six points and 10 rebounds.

Hassan Whiteside had 20 points and 13 rebounds for the Heat.

One and not done: Brews-Cubs, Rockies-Dodgers in tiebreakers

CHICAGO (AP)—Triple Crown contender Christian Yelich and the Milwaukee Brewers at Wrigley Field. Nolan Arenado and the big-hitting Colorado Rockies at Dodger Stadium.

October baseball is about to begin with Game No. 163 on Monday.

Two tiebreakers on the same day for the first time in major league history. Both to divvy up divisions, too.

"It's interesting that baseball is such a perfect game in some ways that it takes 162 to not decide anything," Chicago Cubs manager Joe Maddon said.

Kris Bryant, Anthony Rizzo and the Cubs begin the doubleheader drama when they host Milwaukee for the NL Central crown. Later in the afternoon, Dodgers rookie Walker Buehler is set to start when Los Angeles faces Colorado for the NL West title.

There's a catch, though.

All four teams are already assured playoff spots, either as a division champ or wild card. The Dodgers, Rockies, Brewers and Cubs knew that going into Sunday, the final scheduled day of the regular season, and then romped by a combined score of 48-5.

So, it means this: These matchups are not one-and-done.

Never before has a team that lost a tiebreaker got to keep playing. Bucky Dent's pop-fly homer finished off the Red Sox in 1978. Matt Holliday slid home — and maybe touched the plate—to eliminate San Diego in 2007. David Price pitched Tampa Bay past Texas in 2013 to win the most recent matchup.

This time, they're all in. But, there's still a big difference between winning the division or going into the postseason as a wild card.

The Brewers-Cubs winner gets to start the best-of-five Division Series at home on Thursday against the wild card winner. The Colorado-Los Angeles winner also begins the NLDS at home versus Atlanta.

"It's a game where obviously it's not do-or-die, but I think that it's a must-win game," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said after a 15-0 rout in San Francisco.

"To win the game and get a couple days off, to host the Division Series is very important," he said.

The tiebreaker losers play Tuesday at the NL Central's site to determine who advances.

The AL playoff scenario is set.

Oakland and the Yankees hold the wild-card game Wednesday night in New York and the winner goes to Boston on Friday. Defending World Series champion Houston opens the ALDS against Cleveland.

Arenado homered twice and Charlie Blackmon hit for the cycle as the Rockies roughed up Washington 12-0. The Nationals decided to skip ace Max Scherzer and instead start Erick Fedde.

Colorado, which has never won a division title since beginning play in 1993, will try to deny the defending NL champion Dodgers their sixth straight West title. German Marquez, who struck out eight straight batters to begin his last start, takes on Manny Machado, Justin Turner and their Los Angeles teammates.

"It's two of the best young starting pitchers in the big leagues pitching in this type of game," Rockies manager Bud Black said. "It's great."

The Dodgers topped Colorado 12-7 in the season series. The Cubs are 11-8 against Milwaukee.

At Wrigley, lefty Jose Quintana is set to start for the Cubs. He's 6-2 with a 1.60 ERA in 10 starts against Milwaukee. The Brewers haven't announced their starter.

The Cubs put themselves in this position with a 10-5 win at home over St. Louis. Milwaukee won its seventh in a row, trouncing Detroit 11-0.

"Expecting it to be fairly hostile tomorrow," Yelich said. "Any time we play the Cubs, it's a hostile environment, especially in Wrigley Field. It's going to be a lot of fun. We're looking forward to it."

Yelich is hitting .323 in his first season with Milwaukee, sealing the first batting title in Brewers' history. He has 109 RBIs, tied with Arenado and two behind Javier Baez of the Cubs. Yelich's 36 home runs are even with Colorado's Trevor Story and St. Louis' Matt Carpenter, one behind Arenado.

Since the tiebreakers are considered game No. 163 of the regular season, all stats Monday will count, giving Yelich a chance to win the first NL Triple Crown since Joe Medwick in 1937.

Scioscia bids farewell as Angels manager after 19 years

In Anaheim, Mike Scioscia started out smiling in front of the crowded room. It wasn't long, though, before tears glistened in his hazel eyes.

He stepped down as manager of the Los Angeles Angels after 19 seasons on Sunday, ending the longest current tenure in the majors with a come-from-behind victory.

"It's been second to none. It's been incredible," he said of his time in Anaheim.

Scioscia guided the Angels to the franchise's only World Series title in 2002, starting a stretch of six playoff appearances and five AL West titles in eight years. He finished with a 1,650-1,428 record.

His wins are the 18th-most in major league history and the second-most with one team, trailing only Walter Alston's 2,040 with the Dodgers, Scioscia's club during a standout catching career.

Scioscia surpassed the 1,599 wins of Tom Lasorda, his playing manager and mentor, and his .536 winning percentage is the best in franchise history.

Titans pull off upset over Eagles in OT

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Marcus Mariota hit Corey Davis with a 10-yard touchdown pass just before the end of overtime, and the Tennessee Titans beat the Philadelphia Eagles, 26-23, on Sunday for their best start since 2013.

The Titans trailed by 14 in the third quarter before rallying for the lead. They also trailed, 23-20, in overtime before coming back again behind Mariota, who in his first start since being knocked out of the season opener with an injured elbow threw for 344 yards and two touchdowns while also running for a score.

On the game-winning drive, the Titans converted three fourth downs, one by penalty. Mariota hit Taywan Taylor with a 19-yarder on fourth-and-15, and Mariota found a wide-open Dion Lewis on fourth-and-2 for a 17-yard gain. Facing third-and-goal and the clock running out, Mariota found Davis for the receiver's first TD catch in the regular season.

AP
Tennessee Titans wide receiver Corey Davis (84) catches the winning touchdown pass over Philadelphia Eagles cornerback Avonte Maddox (29) in overtime of an NFL football game Sunday, Sept. 30, 2018, in Nashville, Tenn. The Titans won, 26-23.

The Titans (3-1) also came up with four sacks. Rookie Harold Landry got his first and also stripped Carson Wentz of the ball within the first minute of the fourth quarter, setting up the second of Ryan Succop's two field goals.

The Eagles (2-2) had their chances to win both at the end of regulation and in overtime but were forced to settle for a pair of field goals by Jake Elliott.

Cowboys 26, Lions 24

In Arlington, Brett Maher kicked a 38-yard field goal as time expired, lifting Dallas over Detroit.

Maher's fourth field goal was set up by Dak Prescott's 34-yard completion to running back Ezekiel Elliott on a deep throw after Matthew Stafford had put the Lions in front with a 38-yard touchdown to Golden Tate, their second TD connection of the day.

Bengals 37, Falcons 36

In Atlanta, Andy Dalton threw a 13-yard touchdown pass to A.J. Green with 7 seconds remaining, lifting Cincinnati over Atlanta.

Dalton moved the Bengals 75 yards in about four minutes. He completed two passes on fourth down to Tyler Boyd, who had 11 catches for 100 yards, to keep the drive alive.

Green, the former University of Georgia star making his first return to the state of Georgia, made a diving catch in the right side of the end zone to cap the drive. He had four catches for 78 yards.

Texans 37, Colts 34, OT

In Philadelphia, Ka'imi Fairbairn took advantage of his second chance on a 37-yard field goal attempt, making it as time expired in overtime to give Houston a victory over Indianapolis.

He had missed the first kick wide left—just after Indy called timeout. Houston (1-3) ended the league's losing streak at nine games with its first victory since Nov. 19.

STRONG

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men's national team member Chris Nelson knocked in a pair of goals for Paire, which drew one each from Brad Ruszala and Danny Agulto. Nelson scored in the 16th and 34th minute and was also credited with the assists on Ruszala's conversion in the 44th. Agulto hit the board for Paire in the 47th minute and the winning team had its last in the 88th off an own goal.

In the other Division A game played at the Koblerville facility, TanHoldings pounded Matansa FC last Sunday, 7-0.

Mark Esalan did most of the damage for TanHoldings after firing four goals. He nailed TanHoldings' first to goals after finding the back of the net in the third and ninth minute and then delivered the last two with his shots in the 50th and 52nd. John Michael Rojas, Joshua De Leon, and Razeff Altamirano added one goal apiece after scoring in the 17th, 21st, and 35th minute, respectively.

MP United FC also played last Sunday and nipped Kanoa, 4-3, at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

MP United was on target in the first half, making all its goals in the opening 45 minutes of play to gain cushion against Kanoa's comeback bid in the second. Timothy Tawanpiy handed MP United its first goal right in the opening minute of the Division A match, while Skyler Poon made it a 2-0 advantage for their squad in the 11th minute. A goal from Aloy Angeles in the 30th minute widened the gap, while Michiteru Mita closed out for MP United in the second half with his conversion in the 39th.

Kanoa was able to counter with only one goal in the first half, courtesy of Jether Yobech's shot. Yobech had another one just two minutes into the second half, while Ronnel Ocanada gave Kanoa its third goal in the 57th minute.

Meanwhile, Sun Palace had a winning debut at the Koblerville pitch after dominating Pacific Islands Club in their Division B game last Sunday, 6-1.

Alan Wong towed Sun Palace to victory after making a hat trick, which he posted in succession after hitting the board in the 39th, 62nd, and 74th minute. Sun Palace's two other goals came from Ronald Cheung and Jun Liu in the 14th and 23rd, respectively, while the first one was off PIC's miscue. Brandon Tenorio handed PIC its lone goal in the 48th minute.

In the other Division B game at the training center, Shirley's FC and CNMI Women's National Team engaged in a scoreless draw.

SWIMMERS

From Page 28

that the issue on the pool will be settled, soon.

"The CNMI will be sending four swimmers to the World Championships in China in December. It is a short course tournament, so turns, start, and speed are crucial and we need a pool to work on those things," Winkfield said.

"We will look for pools in the hotel and hopefully they will allow us to use the facility. It's logistically hard using the pools at hotels because of the liability issues and hotels have guests to attend to, but we really need some pool time in December," added Winkfield.

For now, the SSC official is just proud that their swimmers are not giving up and remain positive.

"The kids are out here, doing the same things they are doing in the pool before. It's us the adults and leaders who need to figure out things to help our kids become successful. We can't be the ones holding them back from doing things they are good at. I understand that the situation is complicated, but I am keeping my fingers crossed that we will come up with the solution soon," Winkfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Saipan Swim Club members pose for a photo during a break in their training session in the waters off Civic Center in Susupe yesterday.

Kan Pacific's extension of lease agreement with the government expired last Sunday, leaving the Marpi pool and other facilities under the company's care closed. Last week, the Commonwealth Lottery Commission approved Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's request to take over the facilities under Kan Pacific's management, including the Olympic-sized pool. However, as of yesterday afternoon, Winkfield said they haven't heard anything about the pool from the concerned parties.

Despite the uncertainty over the pool, Jinju Thompson and Lennosuke Suzuki vowed to keep working to prepare for competitions and encourage swimmers to remain in the program.

"It's unfortunate that the pool closed, but we have the ocean—there's a big place to practice. We will train here until the pool reopens," Thompson said.

"I hope it will be soon, as although we can still practice here (ocean), there are certain things we need to work on and they can only be done at the pool," Suzuki said.

CAMACHO

From Page 28

my career. It's truly a blessing in disguise and I cannot wait to get back after it and fix the mistakes that I made in that fight," Camacho said.

The Saipan-raised fighter will soon return to training and hopes to be back on the eight sides either late this year or early next.

"I'm recovering well. I feel 100 percent recovered. I have one more medical check up for the 100 percent clear to get back into full training and hopefully get something soon. I'm looking at the end of the year or beginning of next year fight," he said.

Camacho dueled Neal in welterweight class (170-lbs catch weight) and some are encouraging him to return to lightweight (155 lbs).

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Boston	108	54	.667	—
y-New York	100	62	.617	8
Tampa Bay	90	72	.556	18
Toronto	73	89	.451	35
Baltimore	47	115	.290	61

Central Division

x-Cleveland	91	71	.562	—
Minnesota	78	84	.481	13
Detroit	64	98	.395	27
Chicago	62	100	.383	29
Kansas City	58	104	.358	33

West Division

x-Houston	103	59	.636	—
y-Oakland	97	65	.599	6
Seattle	89	73	.549	14
Los Angeles	80	82	.494	23
Texas	67	95	.414	36

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

x-Atlanta	90	72	.556	—
Washington	82	80	.506	8
Philadelphia	80	82	.494	10
New York	77	85	.475	13
Miami	63	98	.391	26½

Central Division

z-Chicago	95	67	.586	—
z-Milwaukee	95	67	.586	—
St. Louis	88	74	.543	7
Pittsburgh	82	79	.509	12½
Cincinnati	67	95	.414	28

West Division

z-Colorado	91	71	.562	—
z-Los Angeles	91	71	.562	—
Arizona	82	80	.506	9
San Francisco	73	89	.451	18
San Diego	66	96	.407	25

z-clinched playoff berth
x-clinched division

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Miami	3	1	0	.750	82	90
New England	2	2	0	.500	95	84
Buffalo	1	3	0	.250	50	106
N.Y. Jets	1	3	0	.250	89	89

South

Tennessee	3	1	0	.750	75	73
Jacksonville	3	1	0	.750	88	56
Houston	1	3	0	.250	96	108
Indianapolis	1	3	0	.250	94	100

North

Cincinnati	3	1	0	.750	126	113
Baltimore	3	1	0	.750	123	65
Cleveland	1	2	1	.375	102	104
Pittsburgh	1	2	1	.375	102	116

West

Kansas City	3	0	0	1.000	118	92
Denver	2	1	0	.667	61	70
L.A. Chargers	2	2	0	.500	111	120
Oakland	1	3	0	.250	97	123

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Washington	2	1	0	.667	64	44
Dallas	2	2	0	.500	67	77
Philadelphia	2	2	0	.500	82	81
N.Y. Giants	1	3	0	.250	73	95

South

New Orleans	3	1	0	.750	137	121
Carolina	2	1	0	.667	71	60
Tampa Bay	2	2	0	.500	112	139
Atlanta	1	3	0	.250	116	122

North

Chicago	3	1	0	.750	111	65
Green Bay	2	1	1	.625	92	83
Minnesota	1	2	1	.375	90	110
Detroit	1	3	0	.250	94	114

West

L.A. Rams	4	0	0	1.000	140	67
Seattle	2	2	0	.500	85	81
San Francisco	1	3	0	.250	100	118
Arizona	0	4	0	.000	37	94

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Geckos 5000

PHOTOS By LINDSAY NASH

Runners run along Marpi with the Banzai Cliff as their backdrop during last Wednesday's Geckos 5000—a cross country race organized by Saipan International School.

Marianas High School's Therize Millare is all focused as she heads back to the start/finish line.

A Marianas High School runner concentrates as she returns to Banzai Cliff.

A Saipan International School runner takes her time running through the boonies.

Saipan International School's Kaden Church keeps a steady pace on his way out of the boonies.

Marianas High School's Ken Song runs through the boonies.

Agape Christian School students pose with the first place trophy in the men's division.

Saipan International School headmaster Ron Snyder, fifth left, poses with his runners.

Europe finishes off US to regain Ryder Cup

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

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Swimmers show resiliency

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The closure of the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool will not stop Saipan Swim Club members from training and improving their skills.

After holding their last practice at the 50-meter pool in Marpi last Friday, SSC started working on their strokes in the open waters off Civic Center in Susupe yesterday.

"The kids are resilient. They know they have to continue swimming and move forward and let the adults resolve the problems with the pool. It's not ideal (practicing in the ocean), but ocean swim has a lot on benefits, like improving endurance and cardio. Plus, open water is getting a big following in the world, so our swimmers can take a break from the pool and improve their ocean swim skills," SSC coach Jacoby Winkfield told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday during a break in their first open water swim session.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Saipan Swim Club coach Jacoby Winkfield watches swimmers do practice laps in the waters off Civic Center in Susupe during a training session yesterday.

"There's no excuse to stop swimming and the kids know that. We are surrounded with water and we just have to make use of what's available for now. We can't stop because we might lose momentum and eventually swimmers will stop coming and the program will suffer," the SSC coach added.

Winkfield said it will be business as usual for SSC, as the club will hold its regular practices from Monday to Friday, beginning at 4pm, while swim lessons will still be offered every Tuesday and Thursday. Despite keeping their training schedule and moving to a new venue, the SSC coach hopes

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Camacho: UFC wants to have me back

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Frank "The Crank" Camacho will still see action in Ultimate Fighting Championships despite completing his four-fight deal with the American mixed martial arts promotion company last month.

"The UFC wants to have me back. So I am blessed for the opportunity," Camacho told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The Marianas pride had his fourth UFC bout last Sept. 8 when he battled Geoff "Handz of Steel" Neal in UFC 228: Woodley vs Till at the American Airlines Center in Dallas, Texas. Neal won the fight via knockout after downing Camacho with a head kick at the 1:23 mark of the second round. The win was Neal's fourth straight with three of his successive victories coming by way of KOs. Camacho, on the other hand, dropped to a 1-3 mark in UFC and 21-7 overall.

The 29-year-old Camacho admitted that younger Neal caught him off guard and the former is raring to go back and redeem himself.

"The last fight was a tough loss. I've never lost like that in

See CAMACHO on Page 26

MMA JUNKIE PHOTO
Frank "The Crank" Camacho, right, unleashes a kick on Geoff Neal during their bout in UFC 228 last month at the American Airlines Center in Dallas, Texas.

Strong debuts for Paire, TanHoldings

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Paire Football Club and TanHoldings FC hammered their respective opponents in the opening week of the 2018 Fall M-League.

Paire played in the first game of the season last Thursday at the NMI Soccer Training Center and shut down The Old B Bank in their Division A tiff, 5-0. Former CNMI

See STRONG on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
TanHoldings Footbal Club, left, and Matansa FC players collide as they go for a header during the second half of their Division A game in the 2018 Fall M-League last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.